

# Houston County Board of Education

Monitoring:  <b>Review: Annually, in April</b>	Descriptor Term:  <h2 style="text-align: center;">Pediculosis (Head Lice) and Cimicidae (Bed Bugs)</h2>	Descriptor Code: <h3 style="text-align: center;">6.4031</h3>	Issued Date: <h3 style="text-align: center;">10/28/24</h3>
		Rescinds:	Issued: 12/11/17; 11/13/17

No student shall be denied an education solely by reason of head lice or bed bug infestation and his/her educational program shall be restricted only to the extent necessary to minimize the risk of transmitting the infestation.<sup>1</sup>

It shall be the responsibility of the principal or school nurse to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) in the event a student has pediculosis (head lice) or cimicidae (bed bugs). A letter shall be sent home with the student to explain the condition, requirements for readmission, and deadlines for satisfactory completion of the treatment.

Prior to readmission, satisfactory evidence shall be submitted to school personnel that the student has been treated for pediculosis (head lice) or cimicidae (bed bugs). This evidence may include but not be limited to:

- (1) Proof of treatment with a pediculicide product (e.g. head lice shampoo);
- (2) Acknowledgement of inspection of home environment for presence of bed bugs with action plan (if appropriate) signed by parent/guardian, or
- (3) Satisfactory examination by a school health official.

Treatment and prevention procedures shall be developed by the Director of Schools/Designee in consultation with the school nurse and distributed to all classroom teachers. These procedures shall also be distributed to the parent/guardian of any student who has evidence of head lice or bed bugs.

Any subsequent incidents of head lice or bed bugs for a student during the school year shall require submission of satisfactory evidence of treatment or be found free of lice or bed bugs by a school health official.

A student shall be expected to have met all requirements for treatment and return to school no later than two (2) days following absence for head lice or bed bugs. All days in excess of the allowable period shall be marked as unexcused absences and referred to the attendance supervisor at the proper time.

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Legal References

1. TRR/MS 1200-14-01-.24