



Watertown Mayer Health Services

Head Lice Protocol

Based on recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health and Hennepin County Infectious Disease.
[MDH Head Lice](#)
[Hennepin County Infectious Disease Fact Sheet](#)

IF HEAD LICE IS SUSPECTED:

- ☐ Nurse or delegated staff member will first call the parent/guardian to gain consent to check the child's head.
- ☐ Head check will be performed privately.

IF HEAD LICE IS CONFIRMED:

- ☐ If head lice is found (live or nits), nurse/staff member will contact the parent and advise to treat when they get home - the student does not need to be excluded from school. Parents will be given the option to pick-up their child early, but going home early is not required. If families choose to pick-up early this will be an excused absence. Students will be advised to avoid head-to-head contact with other students until appropriate treatment is complete.

IF HEAD LICE IS REPORTED:

- ☐ If notified by a parent that a student has head lice:
 - ☐ Recommend treatment as soon as possible and recommend that it be done before the student returns to school but again is **NOT** required.

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- No classroom head lice checks. Rationale for this is explained in the attached NASN Position Statement [NASN Head Lice Position Statement](#).
 - Routine reminders for parents to check heads will be sent out electronically with building newsletters at the Elementary School only unless otherwise determined by building nurses and building administrators.
 - Head lice letters/notifications are **NOT** to be sent out by individual classrooms or teachers. Head lice notification should be done only if advised by the building administrator. Rationale for this is explained in the attached [NASN Head Lice Position Statement](#).