

**Pequannock Township School District**  
**MANAGEMENT OF PEDICULOSIS INFORMATION PACKET**  
**HEALTH SERVICES PROTOCOL FOR PEDICULOSIS (Head Lice)**

**IDENTIFICATION**

**Physical findings:** The presence of nits (small round or oval specks which adhere to the hair shaft and will not flick off as with dandruff) or the presence of lice (tiny insects that are grayish tan in color on the scalp).

**Signs and Symptoms:**

- Tickling feeling on the scalp or in the hair
- Itching (caused by the bites of the louse)
- Irritability and difficulty sleeping (lice are more active in the dark)
- Sores on the head (caused by scratching, which can sometimes become infected)

**TREATMENT** - Parents/guardians are to consult their doctor and/or pharmacist for specific instructions on appropriate treatment for their child.

**MANAGEMENT** - Confidentiality should be a primary consideration for the child and his/her family. When a case of lice is reported to the school or identified by the school nurse, the following is to be done by the school nurse.

- a. Notify the parent at the earliest time possible. The student may remain in school until the end of the day.
- b. Treatment should only be performed on their child if active head lice or nits are found in their child's scalp, and should not be applied as a preventative measure. Parents are expected to notify the school nurse if they find active head lice or nits in their child's scalp. If requested by the parent, the school nurse will perform a head check of a student.
- c. Siblings of the student will be checked by the school nurse in whichever building they are enrolled.
- d. While the school will follow the requirements of Policy 8454 for class notification, families of affected students should contact any individuals that are likely to have had head-to-head contact with the child who has an active case of head lice (generally at events such as sleepovers, parties, camp, sports with shared head gear)
- e. Students may return to school once treatment has been successfully completed.

**Exclusions:** A student with head lice is excluded from school until the doctor or pharmacist recommended treatment has been completed and the student is lice-free. Parents/guardians are to consult their doctor and/or pharmacist for specific instructions.

**Readmission:** The child will be readmitted after the school nurse has determined that the child has received adequate treatment and is lice-free. The examination for readmittance to school by the school nurse may be, but is not required to be, conducted in the presence of the student's parent or guardian.

**Education:** Each school will have information regarding head lice on their website under the health tab, which will include the Management of Pediculosis Information Packet, and the Board of Education [Policy 8454- Management of Pediculosis](#). CDC, NJDOH, AAP and NASN links will also be provided:

[CDC head lice](#)

[NJDOH head lice](#)

[Healthychildren AAP head lice](#)

[NASN management of head lice in school](#)