



If lice is found at school, the Nurse will Notify the parent or guardian of the affected student as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours after detection.

Inform the parents or guardians of all other students in the same classroom within five school days.

- Confidentiality: Ensure that notifications to other parents do not disclose the identity of the student with lice, maintaining confidentiality as mandated by law.
- Information Provided: Include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendations for the treatment of head lice.

## 2. Screening Procedures

- Routine Checks: Avoid mass screenings, as they are generally ineffective and can lead to unnecessary anxiety and missed instructional time. Instead, focus on individual assessments when lice are suspected.
- Staff Training: Train school staff to recognize signs of head lice to facilitate early detection and minimize the spread.

## 3. Exclusion and Readmission Policies

- Exclusion: Texas law does not mandate excluding students with head lice from school. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) advises against "no-nit" policies that require students to be free of nits before returning to class, as such policies can lead to unnecessary absences. Students are allowed to stay until the end of the school day.
- Readmission Criteria: Students should be allowed to return to school after one appropriate treatment. A follow-up treatment is recommended 7-10 days later to ensure all lice are eliminated.

## 4. Preventative Measures and Education

- Classroom Management: Encourage students to avoid sharing personal items such as hats and combs.
- Parental Guidance: Provide educational materials to parents about detecting and treating head lice, emphasizing the importance of regular at-home checks.
- Support for Families: Offer resources or referrals to families who may need assistance obtaining treatment products.
- Headphones will be wiped down after each use; please purchase your own headphones if you do not want your child using the school's headphones.

## 5. Monitoring

- Follow-Up: Conduct follow-up checks on affected students.