

ANTILLES HEAD LICE POLICY

It is the position of the National Association of School Nurses that the management of head lice (*Pediculus Humanus Capitis*) infestations in school settings should not disrupt the educational process, including but not limited to the elimination of classroom screenings, forced absences from school for nits and/or live lice, and broad notification that a case of head lice has been found.

1. Parents/Caregivers are the best source of detection of head lice and therefore should check their children frequently. If the child is symptomatic they should be checked every two to three days if live lice are not seen initially.
2. If a child is demonstrating symptoms at school they will be sent to the school nurse.
3. If the child is found to have live lice, parents/caregivers will be notified by the school nurse so that prompt, proper treatment of the condition can be initiated. The child will no longer be sent home from school but should be treated promptly.
4. Parents/guardians should treat the head lice per Doctor or Pharmacist recommendation. Home remedies do not work so please use a recommended lice eradication product as soon as lice is found.
5. Notify the school nurse if you discover your child has lice while at home. The expectation is that they be treated prior to returning to school.
6. Head lice screening programs have not been proven to have a significant effect over time on the incidence of head lice in the school setting and will no longer be instituted.
7. Antilles will no longer notify parents of a case of lice discovered in the classroom.

Since it is likely that a child's infestation has been present for 30 days or more prior to the identification of live lice, the affected child in school poses little risk of transmission to others and should remain in class.

Please contact the school nurse if you have any questions.