

Lice Information



Dear Parents,

Head lice are a common problem amongst the school age population. An estimated 6–12 million infestations occur in children ages 3–11 in the United States. (CDC, 2024). Lice are blood feeding insect parasites that attach to hair on the head and neck. They do not transmit disease, but can cause discomfort and decreased sleep. To help discourage the spread of head lice, it is important to educate your children to:

- ❑ Discourage head to head contact
- ❑ Avoid sharing of scarves, hats, hair brushes, hair accessories, helmets and other head gear
- ❑ Wash bedding in hot water regularly, dry on high heat and do not share bedding.

If you have additional questions or concerns about head lice, please contact nurse Carla.



Contact Information:

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FAST FACTS .

Lice do not spread easily. They also cannot survive more than 48 hours off a human scalp.

Lice cannot jump. They can only crawl so most transmission is only by direct head to head contact.

The spreading of lice can happen through the sharing of brushes and hats, but the easiest way lice spread is by head-to-head contact. .

When head lice is discovered at school, parents are notified for recommendation of treatment. Children found with lice are encouraged to go home from school for treatment.

A child with head lice has likely had the infestation for some time, and studies have shown that lice are not likely to spread within classrooms.

Lice affect people in all socioeconomic classes, affects girls more than boys and less in African Americans.

Lice is not a sign of uncleanliness. In fact, lice prefer clean hair.

SYMPTOMS OF HEAD LICE

- Itching – head lice bite and it can cause the scalp to be itchy.
- Tickling – head lice do crawl and it can tickle the scalp.
- Irritability – A child with head lice may not sleep well at night.
- Sores – scratching and bites from the lice, you may notice sores on the scalp.

