



HEAD LICE

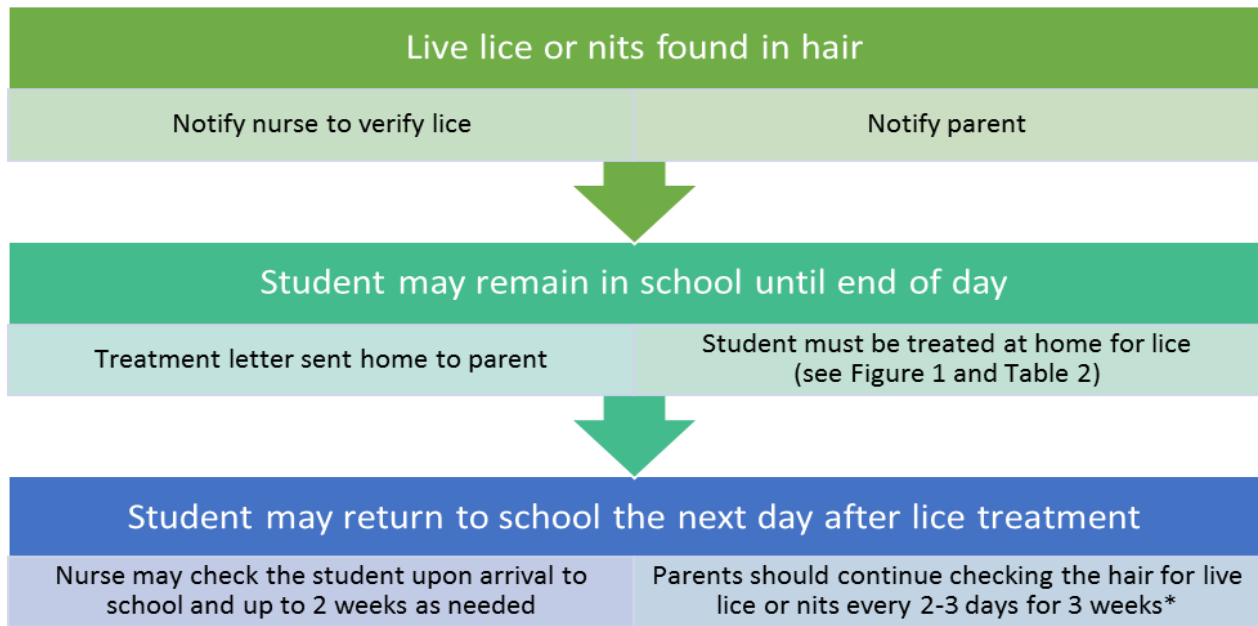
REGULATION No. 559

Head Lice (*Pediculosis capitus*)

As per the recommendation from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of School Nurses, any student found to have “live” lice may remain in school until the end of that day, without any disruption from their regular class schedule. Parents/guardians will be notified confidentially by the end of the school day so that appropriate treatment may be obtained (see **Table 1**). Families are advised to consult a local pharmacist or their doctor for guidance on adequate treatment to kill live lice. A list of recommended lice medications can be found in **Table 2**. Typically, two treatments are advisable over the course of 1-2 weeks. A student may return to school following the first treatment, even if nits (empty shell casings) remain in the hair, as it can be challenging to remove these completely. The school nurse may check the child upon his/her return and as needed up to two weeks following treatment.

It should be noted that although head lice can be a nuisance, its presence does not cause or spread disease. Lice can occur regardless of personal hygiene or cleanliness at home or in school. Additional steps to manage lice at home are noted in **Figure 1**. Our district values the attendance of our students, and strives to prevent any unnecessary absenteeism or burden on our families or community.

Table 1: School Head Lice Procedure



**If live lice are found after using a recommended treatment, contact your doctor for further treatment recommendations.*

***If several students in the same classroom are found to have live lice, a classroom notice will be sent at the elementary level.*

****If you have a child in another school building, the school nurses may communicate with each other to check all children who live in the same household.*



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Figure 1: Recommended Head Lice Treatment Steps

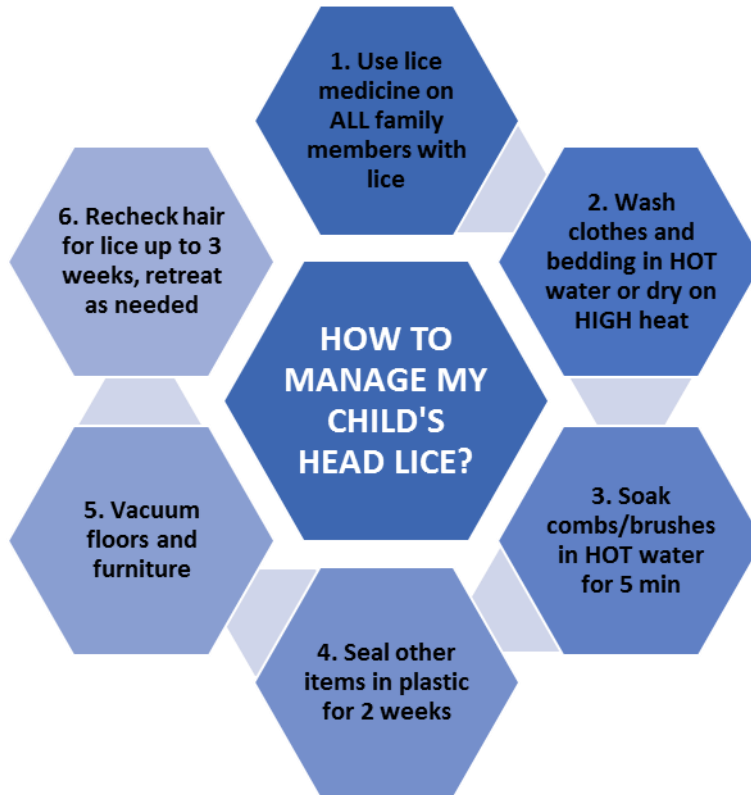


Table 2: Recommended Medicines for Head Lice (Follow instructions thoroughly)

MEDICINE NAME	AVAILABILITY	ACTIVITY	RETREATMENT REQUIRED	NIT COMBING	AGE FOR TREATMENT	CAUTIONS
Pyrethrin (Rid, Triple X, A-200, Pronto)	Over the counter	Kills live lice only	YES, after 9-10 days	YES	2 years and older	Do not use if allergic to ragweed or chrysanthemums
Permethrin lotion 1% (Nix)	Over the counter	Kills live lice only	Yes, after 9 days	YES	2 months and older	None
Benzyl alcohol lotion 5% (Ulesfia)	Prescription only	Kills live lice only	Yes, after 7 days	YES	6 months – 60 years	Can be irritating to the skin
Ivermectin lotion 0.5% (Sklice)	Prescription only	Kills live lice and hatched nymphs	No	NO	6 months and older	None
Malathion lotion 0.5% (Ovide)	Prescription only	Kills live lice and some eggs	Only if live lice are seen after 7-9 days	NO	6 years and older	Lotion is flammable; do not smoke or use near heat
Spinosad 0.9% (Natroba)	Prescription only	Kills live lice and eggs	Only if live lice are seen after 7 days	NO	6 months and older	

References:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/treatment.html>

American Academy of Pediatrics: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/135/5/e1355.full>

National Association of School Nurses: <https://www.nasn.org>



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SUPERINTENDENT'S REGULATION

APPROVED BY DR. BRIAN G. OSBORNE, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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