

DeForest Area School District
Administrative Regulation

TITLE: <p style="text-align: center;">LICE EXCLUSION</p>	NUMBER: AR 4.8(8)
<i>Executive Limitation: EL 4 – Treatment of Students (4.8 – Expectations for Working and Learning Environment)</i>	
Recorded as Administrative Regulation: <i>Established: 12/18/08 Revisions:</i>	
Origin as Board Of Education Policy: <i>Established: n/a Revisions:</i>	

The school is to exclude the students experiencing a **first time head lice infestation** until proper treatment has been received, live lice are removed and the student has been inspected by staff. Written notice and a fact sheet on head lice **must** be provided to the parent(s)/guardian. This fact sheet will also have resources for the family to use in case they can not afford the lice treatment as prescribed by the district. The school nurse, or designee, will contact the head custodian, or designee for the building. They will then go through the district disinfectant procedures.

The school is to exclude the students experiencing a **second head lice infestation** in a period of 30 days until proper treatment has been received, live lice are removed and the student has been inspected by staff. Written notice and a fact sheet on head lice **must** be provided to the parent(s)/guardian. This fact sheet will also have resources for the family to use in case they can not afford the lice treatment as prescribed by the district. In addition, the student should be referred to a district nurse for family education on prevention and treatment of head lice. The school nurse, or designee, will contact the head custodian, or designee for the building. They will then go through the district disinfectant procedures.

After consulting with a district nurse, the principal is to exclude the students experiencing a **third head lice infestation** in a period of 30 days until proper treatment has been received, live lice are removed and the student has been inspected by staff and **nit removal** have occurred. Written notice and a fact sheet on head lice **must** be provided to the parent(s)/guardian. This fact sheet will also have resources for the family to use in case they can not afford the lice treatment as prescribed by the district. The school nurse, or designee, will contact the head custodian, or designee for the building. They will then go through the district disinfectant procedures.

Principals are also granted the authority to go to a “no nit” procedure if it is determined lice infestation is at an unmanageable proportion. A lice infestation is defined when 5% of the entire school population has live lice or 10% of the district is infested with live lice.

Screening

When a student in an **elementary school** has been found to have live lice by the school, a letter explaining what the school has found is to be sent home to parents in that classroom. In addition head lice inspections of entire elementary classroom or student body are only done as recommended

by the school nurse or written policy. As a general rule, this measure might be considered if 20% of a classroom were known to be infested or chronic reinfestation of students occur.

When a student is being checked for live lice the inspection is to be done as follows:

- The student should be brought to an area offering good light. The examination should be done unobtrusively and private.
- A separate, clean implement (i.e. tongue depressor) may be used to separate the hair. Gloves may be used at the discretion of the inspector.
- Care must be taken not to convey the message that the student is too “dirty” to touch; the student has no control over the problem.
- The individual conducting the examination needs to maintain a calm and reassuring attitude.
- Upon completion of the inspection, the inspector should wash his/her hands with soap and water.

The district reserves the right to inspect other known household contacts of an infested student attending school in an effort to stem outbreaks in other classes and schools. Head lice inspections of entire elementary classroom or student body are only done as recommended by the school nurse or written policy. As a general rule, this measure might be considered if 20% of a classroom were known to be infested or chronic reinfestation of students occur.

When 5% or more of the total population of a school at any level is affected, an all school letter will be sent to notify parents/guardians. The entire school will then be checked for live lice.

Disinfection procedures for rooms.

This process is to be used by the custodial staff in the building after a report of lice in a room. (The term disinfection is used because we are using Aurora our quaternary disinfectant cleaner to destroy any eggs or lice that may be present.) We limit the use of pesticides in the building to large infestations or repeat problems due to the regulations governing the use of pesticides in schools.

The head custodian or their designee will:

1. Bag all stuffed animals and pillows with the help of the teacher. These must then be put in a freezer for 72 hours to kill any lice or eggs that may be on them.
2. Any upholstered furniture should be disposed of. We can not clean or treat these items effectively without using a pesticide.
3. All carpets will be thoroughly vacuumed and lightly misted with Aurora
4. All desks and hard surfaces will be wiped down with Aurora.
5. Entire floor will be moped using Aurora.

Procedure steps 3 through 5 should also be used in “pink eye” outbreaks.

HEAD LICE FACT SHEET

What are head lice?

Head lice are parasites - very small bugs. They live on the head and the hair of the head. Sometimes you find them in eyebrows, eyelashes, and beard.

Head lice are most commonly found in young, school age children. But anyone can get head lice - it does not matter whether a person is young or old, dirty or clean, rich or poor.

Adult head lice are hard to see. They are gray or brown in color and about 1/8 inch long. But their eggs, called nits, are easier to find. Nits are off-white in color and about the size and shape of the head of a straight pin. The nits may at first look to you like dandruff, but you will find that the nits are very firmly stuck to the strands of hair. Nits will not flake off or wash off like dandruff.

Head lice live for about 1 month. They multiply very quickly. Adult female lice lay up to 6 nits a day. These nits will hatch in 7 to 10 days. And about 8 to 14 days later they will be mature and laying more eggs. Head lice can live away from the human body and on other things for a time - lice up to 2 days and nits up to 10 days.

How do you get head lice?

You can get head lice by -

- direct contact with a person with head lice - head touching head
- Sharing things with a person who has head lice - things like combs, brushes, hats, head bands, scarves, barrettes, hair ribbons. Children should be warned not to share these things.
- using things a person with head lice

- has used; like upholstered furniture, car seats, bus seats, theater seats, pillows, towels, coats, sweaters, wigs. Head lice can also be spread in shared lockers and coat racks if you put your clothes onto those of someone who has head lice.

- has lain on; like rugs, bed, cot, sleeping bag, gym mat

- has played with; like stuffed toys, art smocks, "dress up" clothes

Head lice do not jump or fly.

Head lice do not come from or live on animals. Your pets do not need to be treated during a head lice outbreak.

How do you know if you have head lice?

These are some things to look for -

- Itching of the head
- Scratches, bite marks, or rash on the head or neck. Sometimes these scratches get infected.
- Nits on the hair strands. It may help you see the nits if you have good lighting and use a magnifying glass. Nits may be found throughout the hair but are more often at the back of the head and behind the ears.
- Sometimes swollen glands in the neck and under the arms

How do you get rid of head lice?

As soon as you find head lice, you should treat them because they spread so quickly. If one person in a family has head lice, there is a good chance that others will have it too. So everyone should be checked, and all those who have head lice should be treated at the same time. Treatment includes-

- Medicated shampooing
- and removing all nits
- and cleaning things the person with head lice has used or worn

Shampooing

There are a number of medicated shampoos that can be used to get rid of head lice. Permethrin-based shampoos are best. Some of these shampoos you can get over the counter (just tell the pharmacist what you need), and some must be ordered by a doctor. You must use one of these special head lice shampoos. Washing with regular shampoo will not get rid of head lice. Before using any of these head lice shampoos, read all the directions and follow them exactly.

There are pesticide-free products available as well as an olive oil treatment plan that may be used in addition to the above treatment plan. Please contact your local pharmacist or school nurse for information.

Removing nits

This will take time but you must do it if you want to get rid of the head lice. Just shampooing is not enough, as it will not kill or remove all the nits. You can do nit removal with a special nit comb - the metal combs are best - or with your fingers. Nit combing is easier if the hair is dry or slightly damp. Work in a well lit area and work through a small section of hair at a time so you don't miss any nits. After the shampooing and nit removal, check the person's head every day for at least 10 days. If there are more signs of head lice or nits, you will have to treat again. Shampooing itself may cause itching, so do not treat again for itchiness alone - treat only if you see nits.

Cleaning

Clean everything that has been in contact with the head and neck of the person with head lice. These things may have lice or nits on them. If you don't clean them well, you will just get head lice again.

- Combs, brushes, barrettes. Clean with any remaining medicated shampoo or wash them in a strong disinfectant. Follow directions on the containers.
- Washable things like clothes, jackets, sweaters, scarves, hats, headbands, sheets, pillows, pillow cases, towels, wash cloths. Wash in hot water and dry in a hot dryer.
- Clothes and other materials that cannot be washed. Bag them up and take them to the dry cleaners.
- Upholstered furniture, car and bus seats, pillows, mattresses, box springs, rugs, floors, stuffed animals. Vacuum well. With furniture, vacuum cushions then take them off the chair and vacuum in all the corners and folds. Dispose of vacuum bags after use.
- Smaller, non-washable things - like stuffed toys and pillows. Store in a tightly sealed plastic bag for 10 days.
- Metal, plastic, and other washable surfaces - like lockers, desks, gym mats, bed and cot frames. Wash with a bleach and water solution. Mix 1 tablespoon of chlorine bleach with 1 gallon of water.

There is no need to have your home or school fumigated for head lice. In fact, spraying or fumigating has been found in some cases to be harmful to small children and pets. Head lice do not infest an area like fleas do. Careful cleaning and vacuuming of the area is all that is needed.

Head lice and school or day care

If you find head lice or nits on your child, tell the school or day care right away. Don't be embarrassed. Remember, head lice can happen to anyone. The important thing is to tell the right people so steps can be taken to stop the spread of head lice. Other children in the school or day care may also have head lice. And everyone who has head lice will have to be treated or the children will just keep reinfesting each other.

Also tell the parents of the children your child plays with. These playmates should also be checked for head lice.

The child with head lice and nits is kept out of school until properly treated for head lice. This is done because head lice can spread so quickly. When your child has been treated and you are ready to bring the child back to school, bring your child to the school's office. The school staff will check your child's head before allowing the child back in the classroom. If your child has live lice, he/she will need to return home for further treatment. If your child still has nits/eggs and no live lice, please refer to the lice exclusion policy regarding the district's no nit policy. Please contact the school nurse with any questions or if further information is needed on any resources needed to assist with obtaining treatment products.

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