

Milton Town School District

Procedure

F17-P: MANAGING HEAD LICE CASES/PROCEDURES

1. Any staff member who suspects head lice will report this immediately to the school nurse.
2. Any student identified by the school nurse (or qualified designee) as having live lice shall be discouraged from close contact with others and be sent home for treatment.
3. Verbal and written instructions for treatment will be given to the family of each identified student. The instructions shall include a suggestion that the parent or guardian of the student contact the child's physician or other pediatric health care provider. Instructions shall also include recommendations for treatment that are consistent with Vermont Departments of Health and Education guidelines and that the student may return to school after proper treatment. For students in self contained classrooms, the school nurse or other trained personnel will examine all children in the same classroom with an identified active case (untreated nits or actual lice) and handle appropriately. For students who rotate classrooms the school nurse will determine the most efficient procedures for examination of students.
4. Students (kindergarten – grade 6) to be readmitted to school will first be examined by the school nurse or other trained personnel with the student's parent or guardian present before they may re-enter the classroom. Students will be readmitted to school as long as no live lice are present. Should live lice be present, the student will again be sent home for treatment. At the secondary level (grades 7-12), students will be readmitted to school after the first treatment with a written or verbal confirmation from the parent or guardian that the initial treatment has been completed. Re-treatment recommendations will be consistent with Vermont Department of Health and Department of Education guidelines. In accord with Department of Health recommendations, students will not be excluded from school on the sole grounds that nits may be present despite appropriate treatment.
5. If the number of cases is considered to constitute an outbreak, administrative personnel will institute the outbreak procedures that accompany this policy. An outbreak is considered to have occurred when head lice infestation occurs in 2-3 students in the same classroom or when 10% of the individuals in a classroom, team, school, or child care facility have evidence of infestation.
6. The school nurse will provide additional in-service education as needed for staff with emphasis on diagnosis, treatment and control plans.
7. The school nurse will initiate educational programs for students as necessary.