ELSINBORO township school district file code: 5141.9

Salem, New Jersey

Policy

HEAD LICE

The Elsinboro Elementary School has developed this head lice (pediculosis) policy with the parent body, teachers, the Community (School Nurse) and the Department of Health. The aim of the policy is to ensure a consistent, coordinated and cooperative approach to head lice management for the school community.

Responsibilities

The Parent’s/Guardian’s responsibility is:

1. to learn about head lice infestation and management by reading the Department of Health’s Head Lice Fact Sheet.
2. to treat their child’s hair immediately if the child has head lice, using the advice in the Head Lice Fact Sheet.
3. to inform the school (and other contacts) if their child has a head lice infestation and to confirm that treatment has commenced.
4. to understand and to follow the school’s head lice policy.
5. to check their child’s hair for head lice infestation regularly.

The Community School Nurse’s role is:

1. to provide information, advice and education to parent/guardians and the school community about head lice management.
2. to provide additional assistance for families experiencing persistent head lice infestation.

The School’s role is:

1. to develop, implement and maintain a current head lice management policy.
2. to ensure that all parents/guardians and staff are aware of the school’s head lice policy and that they are provided with a copy of the Head Lice Fact Sheet and school policy at enrollment and upon request.

How Head Lice Information Will Be Disseminated

The school will undertake the following steps to ensure dissemination of accurate up-to- date head lice treatment advice within the school community:

Other Head Lice Education Strategies

1. Head lice information will be included in class activities where appropriate, e.g., personal development (identify head lice and how to comb out), science (life cycle of the head louse) and drama.
2. Head lice management sessions will be provided to individual parents/guardians/caregivers.
3. Parents/guardians who need further advice or who experience difficulty with treatment may be referred to the Community (School) Nurse for assistance.

What Will Happen When a Child is Found to have Head Lice

1. When Pediculosis (head lice) is discovered, the parent/guardian will be called and made aware.
2. The student will return to class and the Head Lice fact sheet will be sent home with the student.
3. The parent/guardian will complete the over-the-counter shampoo treatment and thoroughly comb the student’s hair with a nit comb.
4. The parent/guardian will continue to do the weekly head lice shampoo treatments and daily combing of the student’s hair with the nit comb for at least 3 weeks, or until there are no nits seen.
5. The parent/guardian will check every family member and treat, if necessary.
6. The school nurse will check the student’s hair on a weekly basis for the next 3 weeks, and then as needed.

Assessments

If upon re-assessment by the school nurse, nits are found, either at the time of the initial or return assessment, the student will be assessed at weekly intervals or more frequently at the discretion of the school nurse.

The school nurse retains the authority to, in consultation with the school administrator, exclude a student with repeated infestations of live lice or viable nits, or a student with a current infestation for which there is inadequate management by the parent/guardian. The student may be referred to his/her healthcare provider and/or the Salem County Health Department for additional intervention(s).

Adopted: March 30, 2009

Revised; December 9, 2013, November 19, 2018, September 16, 2019

NJSBA Review/Update: June 2022

Readopted:

Key Words

Lice, Head Lice, Nits, Eggs, Pediculosis, Nurse,

**Legal References:** N.J.S.A. 18A:40-3 Lectures to teachers

 N.J.S.A. 18A:48-7 et seq. Exclusion of students who are ill

 N.J.S.A. 18A:40-8 Exclusion of students whose presence is detrimental to health and cleanliness

 N.J.S.A. 26:4-4 Notice to local board to control disease; proceeding to

 compel action

 N.J.S.A. 26:4-6 Prohibiting attendance of teachers or students

 N.J.A.C. 6A:1.1 et seq. Bylaw for the State Board of Education

 N.J.A.C. 6A:2.1 et seq. Commissioner

 N.J.A.C. 8:52-7 et seq. Public health nursing

 N.J.A.C. 8:57-1.3 Reportable diseases

 N.J.A.C. 8:57-1.6 Reporting positive laboratory tests denoting diseases

 N.J.A.C. 8:57-2.1 et seq. Applicability; definition of AIDS, HIV infection, perinatal HIV

 exposure, and CD4 count

 N.J.A.C. 8:61-1.1 HIV services and definitions

 www.nasn.org/ToolsResources/**SCRATCHHeadLice**Resources

**Possible**

**Cross References:** \*3516 Safety

 \*3542 Food service

 \*4112.4 Employee health

 \*4131/4131.1 Staff development; inservice education/visitations/conferences

 4151.2 Family illness/quarantine

 \*4212.4 Employee health

 4251.2 Family illness/quarantine

 \*5111 Admission

 \*5125 Student records

 \*5141 Health

 \*5141.1 Accidents

 \*5141.2 Illness

 \*5141.3 Health examinations and immunizations

 \*5141.4 Child abuse and neglect

 \*5141.21 Administering medication

 \*5142 Student safety

 \*5200 Nonpublic school students

 \*6142.4 Physical education and health

\*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.