

HEAD LICE INFESTATIONS IN THE SCHOOL

Background

The District recognizes that the identification, control and treatment of head lice are a joint responsibility of the parent, the school and Interior Health Department staff. The Principal, in cooperation with the public health nurse will ensure that the Recommended Head Lice Management policies at Interior Health are implemented in accordance with these procedures. At all times, the implementation of these procedures shall be carried out in a manner that ensures the respect and dignity of the student and family.

Procedures

1. Principals shall provide basic student and parent education on the importance of regular checks, detection methods and suggested treatments as per the [Recommended Interior Health Head Lice Management Policies](#).
2. Parents will be advised that they must inform the Principal if their child has head lice.
3. If a student is found to have head lice:
 - 3.1. A letter will be sent home to the family outlining options for recommended treatment as per the sample letter provided on page 17 in [Recommended Interior Health Head Lice Management Policies](#) and;
 - 3.2. Information regarding lice/nits and recommended treatment will be provided to each family in the class of the infected student and their siblings as per the sample letter provided in Interior Health recommendations.
4. The identity of the student infected with lice will be protected by school staff at all times.
5. Should there be economic reasons that the parent(s) cannot purchase treatment supplies, the Principal will make every effort to obtain the recommended products on behalf of the family.
6. In chronic cases, where recommended management practices have been tried and failed, or where management practices may not have occurred, a meeting between the family, the Principal and Public Health personnel shall occur to develop an action plan to facilitate successful treatment.

7. If families are incapable of planning for and treating chronic cases of head lice, a Principal may provide an educational program to be carried out at home until the treatment plan is successfully followed.

Reference: Sections 7, 17, 20, 22, 65, 85 School Act
Interior Health Recommended Head Lice Management

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Revised: