

## Parent Pediculosis Letter

Date: September 21, 2017

Dear Parents,

This letter serves as notification, in accordance with Texas Senate Bill 1566, a student in your child's class has been identified to have head lice. We do not wish to alarm you, but rather to remind you to observe and monitor your child frequently for the presence of head lice.

If your child exhibits symptoms, please examine the child's head, behind the ears, and at the nape of the neck for crawling lice and/or nits (eggs). If any live head lice and/or nits are found, all household members should be examined every two-three days. Persons with live crawling lice or nits within a ¼ of the scalp should be treated. The successful treatment and elimination of head lice and/or nits requires that all instructions be followed precisely and all steps to be completed entirely. If lice and/or nits are found, please contact the School Health Office.



Actual Size  
1/8 inch



Adult Louse



Nit attached to hair

The CDC, Centers for Disease Control, does not make recommendations as to which specific products are to be used to treat individuals; however, they do recommend for treatment to take place. The AAP, American Academy of Pediatrics, recommends for parents to contact their primary health care provider for treatment instructions. Your local pharmacist or health department may also have information on products available for head lice treatment. In addition, please contact the School Health Office on your child's campus as additional head lice treatment resources may be available to you.

According to the CDC and AAP, children with live head lice do not need to be sent home early from school. Students may stay till the end of the day, be treated at home, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun. Successful treatment should eliminate live head lice; however, nits may persist after the treatment.

When treatment for head lice has begun, supplemental measures can be combined such as laundering items which have come into contact with the individual.

For more information please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/index.html>

Head lice are a nuisance but not a public health threat and do not transmit diseases; therefore, cases are not tracked by the Texas Health Department of State Health Services. Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school are not a factor in coming in contact with head lice. Head lice can come from almost anywhere, most often, it is direct contact with an individual who has live head lice: a classmate, an acquaintance, or from someone while at an extracurricular activity. The following are less likely, but can still be possible modes of transmission: upholstered furniture, bedding (blankets, pillows), hats/beanies, headphones, helmets, coats, jackets, hoodies, shared combs, or shared hairbrushes. Lice can be common wherever children gather in groups and are not a serious medical condition, but it does require diligent parental and school cooperation to control.

Thank you for your help!

Sincerely,

**Cherie Camacho, RN**

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9/15/2017