

F-17

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**DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD POLICY**

HEAD LICE

The psychological, social and economical impact of head lice infestations can create a problem in the community. Recognizing that a sizeable number of cases exist from time to time, the Dover School District will take necessary measures to reduce the loss of instructional time for students.

Prevention

Prevention strategies are an important part of controlling the spread of lice. The principal, using public health resources when necessary, will develop a plan detailing a system-wide approach to preventing and controlling the spread of a head lice infestation. The plan will include the following:

1. Identify partners who will need to collaborate such as parents and children, school nurses and other school personnel, child care providers, local physicians, town health officers, public health staff, community health clinic staff, community volunteers and other community and business members (e.g. dry cleaners, Laundromats, pharmacies)
2. Provide in-service education for all staff with emphasis on diagnosis, mode of transmission, treatment and control plans.
3. Prepare educational materials which will be distributed as needed.
4. Institute school and classroom practices that include:

*assign individual hooks for student belongings

*have students keep their hats inside their coat sleeves

*permanently assign resting mats, towels or pillows and keep separate while in use or in storage

*discourage sharing of combs, brushes or hair ornaments.

*limit the transporting of personal toys such as stuffed animals from home to school.

Managing Head Lice Cases

1. Any staff member who suspects head lice will report this immediately to the school nurse, designee or principal.
2. Any student identified by the school nurse/designee as having lice and/or nits shall be sent home as soon as possible. The student will be removed from the classroom immediately and the nurse will contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) and request that the student be taken home for treatment.

3. Verbal and/or written instructions for treatment will be given to the family of each identified student.
4. The school nurse or other trained personnel will examine all children in the same classroom as an identified active case (nits or actual lice) and handle appropriately.
5. 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, and if they have no nits.
6. Each re-entering student will be examined by trained personnel to look for evidence that the treatment was performed, and that there are no nits.
7. The school nurse/designee will initiate educational programs for students as necessary.
8. Information on infestation is a matter of school record not public record.