



POLICY STATEMENT 750

SUBJECT: PEDICULOSIS – HEAD LICE INFESTATION

AUTHORITY: EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2004

RESPONSIBILITY: Principal REVISED: December 5, 2006

REFERENCE: PAGE: 1 of 1

Preventative Measures:

At the beginning of the school year, schools will provide information to parents on head lice and the need for the parents to conduct thorough, periodic “head checks” of their children for lice and/or nits.

Schools may conduct parent information sessions or distribute literature on the identification and treatment of head lice. Public Health may be contacted for assistance in these matters.

The School principal or designate will ensure that cursory head checks are done at school if there is a suspicion of head lice infestation; this however will not absolve parents of the responsibility to conduct more thorough checks at home.

Procedure in the event of infestation:

Upon discovering the presence of head lice in school or being notified by a parent or parents of student(s) being infested with head lice, the school principal will:

- i. Decide whether to inform either:
 - (a) the parents of children who have been exposed to the presence of head lice in the school; or all parents, or some parents of children who have been exposed to the presence of head lice in the school, or
 - (b) the parents of the entire school population;
- ii. once the decision to inform has been made, he/she will communicate to parents that this is not an emergency situation;
- iii. will ensure that all parents have written information on the identification and treatment of head lice; and
- iv. will exclude the infected student(s) from attending school until the **condition is treated**.

The school principal or designate, after having re-inspected the child and being satisfied that head lice are not present will re-admit the child to school.

If sufficient treatment is causing a child or family to suffer recurrences of head lice, the school principal or designate may offer to contact Public Health so that a home contact may be made by a public health nurse to offer advice or assistance.

