

HEAD LICE

Assessing and Addressing the Issue

The acute and chronic problem of head lice infestation in the school setting shall be approached in the following manner in the Obion County School System:

ASSESSMENT: All homeroom teachers will receive in-service training by the school health nurse for signs and symptoms of active lice infestation to include hair shaft measurement of nit location, and checking scalp and nape for redness, rash, or live lice.

ADDRESSING THE ISSUE: The teachers will check their students periodically for louse infestation. Suggested dates are first of school year, fall break, after Christmas, spring break, and as the administration and/or nurse deems necessary.

If the observation for active lice is positive, the teacher will refer the student to the nurse for follow-up/recommendations, which include

- A. The school nurse confirms the positive finding.
- B. Attempts will be made to locate the parent/responsible party for discussion of the proposed plan of treatment, which will include immediate implementation of the treatment plan.
- C. If the parent/responsible party cannot be reached or is unable to pick up the student immediately for treatment, the active lice treatment proposal plan with follow up information will be sent home with the student on this same day. Depending on the severity of the infestation, the student may or may not be allowed to return to class as determined by administration and school nurse.

The student may return to school the following day readmission with proof of treatment. The proof of treatment may be the box with used bottles, actual bottle of medication used, or receipt.

Upon readmission, the school nurse or administration will recheck the student for active live infestation before the readmission process is complete. The student must have an admission slip from the administration and/or nurse to return to class.

Retreatment of the student will be enforced after seven (7) days unless "NIX" or the prescription Lindane has been used for treatment.

If a student is found to have a chronic reoccurrence of lice infestation (three times in 180 school days), a letter will be sent home on the second reoccurrence, and on the third reoccurrence a home visit will be made by Coordinated School Health and/or Attendance Supervisor.