

## Kings Local School District Lice Management Protocol

Active lice infestations can be defined as the presence of live lice.

- **Any student with live lice may remain in school until the end of the school day. Immediate treatment at home is advised. The student will be readmitted to school after treatment.**
- **Any student with nits should be allowed in school.**
- **Parents should remove nits daily and treat if live lice are observed.**

### Roles and Responsibilities

#### Parent's Role

Parents have the ultimate responsibility for their children. This includes:

- Becoming educated about head lice.
- Performing regular checks on all individuals in the home.
- Treating a child with head lice as soon as possible and committing to following through until there are no longer signs of an infestation.
- Teaching children how to minimize the chance of getting head lice by avoiding head-to-head contact, not sharing hats, combs, brushes, and hair accessories, and by containing long hair in braids or pony tails.

#### School's Role

- Develop and adhere to school district's protocol
- Periodically disseminate current educational materials on head lice to parents via district or school web-sites.
- When a *significant* increase in head lice cases is detected, consider providing a general factsheet or parent education letter.
- Utilize the school nurse to evaluate cases of head lice.
- Mass screenings are not recommended.

### Recommended Procedures

#### Student identified during school hours to have an active case of head lice:

1. Student may return to class but restricted from activities involving close head-to-head contact or sharing personal items with other children. **Immediate removal of the child is unnecessary**—if the child has lice, they probably have been infested for weeks and prompt removal of the child could lead to embarrassment and ridicule. The child can be sent home at the end of the day and should be allowed to ride the bus.
2. Notify parent/guardian directly. Offer emotional support to the parent/guardian as this is a difficult situation for all involved.
3. Send home a copy of the "Head Lice Treatment Letter".

#### Student with a case of head lice returns to school:

1. The school nurse will re-examine the student's hair after home treatment.
2. Periodic checks of the student's hair by the school nurse should be done over the next few weeks to assure successful treatment. **\*\*Remember, confidentiality is important.**
3. Request parent to continue daily lice checks and nit removal for the next two to three weeks.
4. Retreat as necessary according to product label. Request parent to continue daily lice checks and nit removal for the next two to three weeks.