

## **Procedure – Head Lice**

If a student is suspected of having head lice or nits, the student will be sent to the office where the school nurse or designee may do a private, personal assessment.

If the student has been confirmed as having live lice, the student may return to class and:

- The parent/guardian will be notified by telephone or by a note sent home in a sealed envelope by the end of the school day. This contact will provide information on treatment, care options and education of nit removal. The student will not be excluded from school. If the parent/guardian chooses to remove the student from school and/or after-school activities, that removal is at the discretion of the parent/guardian, not per district guidelines, and would be considered an excused absence.
- If it is determined that the student has a significant infestation, it would be at the determination of the principal as to whether an exception should be made and the student sent home.
- The school will encourage the family to check family members and notify those in close contact with the student.
- Students will be advised to avoid close head-to-head contact, but may remain in school.
- After treatment, the school nurse or designee will complete a head check to verify treatment of live lice and will notify the parent/guardian if treatment was unsuccessful.
- The school nurse or designee will complete an additional head check 8-10 days after treatment to determine if live lice are present.
- If the student has a "chronic" head lice issue, the principal will determine appropriate steps for resolution.

If only nits (eggs) are found upon inspection, the student may return to class and:

- The parent/guardian will be notified by telephone or by a note sent home in a sealed envelope by the end of the school day. This contact will determine whether the student has been recently treated for head lice and provide information on removing as many nits as possible.

When three or more cases of head lice are identified in a single classroom, school group/activity or athletic team within a two week consecutive period, all students involved may be screened. This screening is at the discretion of the school administrator and/or school nurse. It will be determined at that time if the cases are intertwined (close contact outside of the school setting).

Ocean Beach School District acknowledges that head lice can be troublesome for many children and appreciates the difficulty that can arise with trying to treat a student. Head lice is not an illness, nor is it a threat to any child's well-being or physical health. A child's health is not at risk due to another child having head lice.

### **Ocean Beach School District Board Policy**

Adoption Date: **08.28.19**

Classification: **Optional**

Revised Dates: