



Book	Policy Manual
Section	8451 Head Lice (Pediculosis)
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#### **8451 - HEAD LICE (PEDICULOSIS)**

The School Board recognizes that effective management of pediculosis (infestation of head lice, *pediculus humanus capitis*) on students in Hernando Schools may depend on prompt case identification, effective treatment, and education regarding prevention of the spread of these ectoparasites.

Students who display signs of head lice infestation at school, such as excessive scratching of the head, may be sent to the clinic to be checked, as needed. A thorough examination of the hair and scalp will be done to determine the presence of live lice. If nits or lice are found, siblings at the same school will be checked for lice infestation as well.

#### **Definitions:**

**Pediculosis-an infestation of lice.**

**Infestation- the presence of live lice, typically on the head.**

**Lice-the plural form of louse.**

**Nit- the egg of a louse.**

~~If nits are present, an attempt will be made to make contact with the parent/guardian and a Nit Notification and Treatment Letter will be sent home with the student. The student will be given a return to class pass from the clinic. Student must report to the clinic on a daily basis to monitor process of nit removal until no nits are found. The school health professional will use the head lice tracking log. A final recheck will be performed on the 10th day. If nits are still present, the RN should be notified to follow up with the parent/guardian.~~

**If nits or live lice are present,** the School Principal or designee will call **contact the parent/guardian to have the student treated** and pick up the student from school ( ) at the end of the school day (x ) immediately. **If a student with nits or live lice is not able to be picked up immediately, they may remain in the classroom for the remainder of the day. The Principal or designee will determine the type of activities the student will be engaged in for the rest of the day to minimize physical contact with other students. If head-to-head contact is possible, the student will be excused from those activities.**

Parent/Guardian will receive a Head Lice Notification and Treatment Letter. **After nits and/or** live lice treatment, the student **must report to the clinic with parent/guardian** to be examined for lice/nits before they may return to class.

If no **live** lice or nits are present, the student may return to class with a pass from the clinic. If **nits or live** lice are present, the student will be sent home with parent/guardian.

**After treatment and upon returning to school, the child will be examined by the school health staff or principal. The District practices a policy of ( ) "no live lice" (  ) no nits as a criteria for return to school.**

Presence of lice twenty-four (24) hours after treatment suggests a very heavy infestation, re-infestation, resistance to therapy, or incorrect use of treatment product. Information will be provided to the parent/guardian regarding the treatment used. The parent/guardian is encouraged to contact the student's licensed healthcare provider regarding re-treatment with a pediculicide.

Classroom head checks are not recommended. A head lice information sheet is available and can be used at the principal's discretion.

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**Last Modified by Jill Kolasa on December 15, 2025**