

Marshall County Office of Coordinated School Health

Head Lice Notification

Dear Parent/Guardian,

You are receiving this letter to inform you that head lice have been discovered in your child's classroom. Don't panic! Head lice are not considered a health hazard as they do not spread disease and/or illness. We ask that you monitor your child for the presence of head lice/ nits and notify the school if your child experiences a lice infestation.

Head lice among children are a common frustration; however, the spread of head lice can be controlled and prevented. Head lice multiply and can spread from person to person easily (especially in children, as they have more head to head contact).

The following information will help you control and prevent the problem of head lice in your home.

1. Please check your child/children's hair for lice every day for the next 10 days. Using a good light source (sunshine works best), check the hair section by section, especially around the ears, the nape of the neck and crown, for live head lice and nits.
2. It is also important to check the head of everyone in the household, including your own.
3. Children should not share combs, brushes, hats, scarves, hair accessories, headphones, etc.
4. Wash all brushes, combs, and hair accessories used within the last 3 days in hot water. All items that were in contact with the affected person(s) within the last 3 days prior to treatment (clothing, jackets, hats, helmets, linens, pillows, toys, etc....) should be washed in hot soapy water and dried in a hot dryer for 15 minutes.
5. All carpeting and upholstered items that the affected person(s) have been in contact with should be vacuumed daily for 10 days.
6. Removing the nits is a very important part of the treatment for controlling head lice. The nits are glued onto the hair shaft as they are laid, and require effort to remove. To remove the nits, use a nit comb or your fingernails to slide the eggs off the hair shaft. You may also use scissors to cut the hair shafts that have nits glued to them. Place the nits on some tape and throw away. You must be diligent to remove all nits or your child will eventually have an active case of head lice again.
7. The privacy and confidentiality of all students will be respected.

If lice are not found after the initial 10 days, please continue to inspect your child/children's head once a week.

Your cooperation is an important part of the efforts being made to completely control the spread of head lice in the school. If you have any questions, please contact your school nurse or the Office of Coordinated School Health at 931-359-1581 ext. 2025 or ext. 2032

School Nurse Signature

Date