

HEAD LICE

The Board of Education believes that the district's head lice management program should emphasize the correct diagnosis and treatment of head lice in order to minimize disruption of the education process and to reduce the number of student absences resulting from infestation. In consultation with the school nurse, the Superintendent or designee may establish a routine screening program to help prevent the spread of head lice.

School employees shall report all suspected cases of head lice to the school nurse or designee as soon as possible. The nurse or designee shall examine the student and other students who are siblings of the affected student or members of the same household.

If a student is found with active, adult head lice, he/she shall be sent home from school and excluded from attendance until treatment has been provided. The parent/guardian of an excluded student shall receive information about recommended treatment procedures and sources of further information. The student shall be allowed to return to school the next day but must first be checked by the school nurse or trained designee. If the student is found to be free of active, adult head lice, the student will be allowed to return to class. Once he/she is determined to be free of lice, the student may be rechecked every two weeks or as needed. If the student is found to have an ongoing lice infestation, the school nurse shall contact the student's parent/guardian to discuss treatment and provide appropriate referrals.

(cf. 5141.3 – Health Examinations)
(cf. 5141.6 – School Health Services)

The Superintendent or designee shall send home the notification required by law for excluded students. (Education Code 48213)

(cf. 5112.2 – Exclusions for Attendance)
(cf. 5145.6 – Parental Notifications)

The principal and school nurse shall work with the parents/guardians of any student who has been deemed to be a chronic head lice case in order to help minimize the student's absences from school.

(cf. 5113 – Absences and Excuses)
(cf. 5113.1 – Truancy)

When two or more students in any class have been identified as having an infestation of active, adult head lice, all students in the class shall be examined. In consultation with the school nurse, the principal may also send information about head lice home to all parents/guardians of the students in that class.

(cf. 5125 – Student Records)

Students

BP 5141.33(b)

HEAD LICE (continued)

Staff shall maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice and excluded from school.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 – Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48210-48216 Persons Excluded

49451 – Physical Examinations: Parent’s Refusal to Consent

Management Resources:

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

Lice, Nits, and School Policy, Official Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, May 2001

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Guidelines for Parents on Control of Head Lice, 2006

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL NURSES ORGANIZATION

Position Statement: Pediculosis Management, 2005

WEB SITES

California Department of Health Services, Infectious Diseases Branch:

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/disb/disbindex.htm>

California School Nurses Organization: <http://www.scno.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parasitic Disease Information, Head Lice:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice>

Policy

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CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Culver City, California