

Lice Procedure & Protocol

Children who have lice are to be excluded from school for 24 hours after being treated with the medicated shampoo that is recommended for lice removal and **all nits (eggs) are removed from the hair.** The removal of the nits is a tedious process, since it has a "gluey hold" to the hair shaft. This process is the responsibility of the parent. **When a medical provider sends a student back with a "clearance", the child can still be sent home if the family has not complied with the "nit-free" policy of our school.** The school nurse will check the child's head to see that the child is "nit-free" before readmission. A note from a physician is not a requirement for a child who has lice to return to school.

The National Pediculosis Association, recommends the No Nit Policy as the public health standard intended to keep children lice free, nit free, and in school. MSA is following this policy and it will be strongly implemented.

Pediculosis represents one of the most common communicable childhood diseases and whether or not we understand how this has evolved, it is important to acknowledge head lice as a problem when raising or caring for children.

The No Nit Policy encourages each family to do its part at home with routine screening, early detection, accurate identification and thorough removal of lice and nits. Establishing consistent guidelines and educating the public about procedures in advance of outbreaks helps minimize inappropriate responses.

Routine head checks will be done at the beginning of the school year and after long breaks. Thank you for your cooperation.