



Health Services Policy on Head Lice  
Updated 8-21-23

In review of the life cycle of head lice, research shows that the louse egg hatches every 7-10 days. The louse is able to survive 48-52 hours with no contact with a human host. Even after treatment with a pediculicide (Rid, Nix, Kwell, Pronto), remaining eggs in the hair are subject to hatch, causing re-infestation. Therefore, the school policy is as follows:

- A student may be screened by a school nurse if lice or nits are suspected. Parents/guardians will be notified of live lice or evidence of lice (nits). Parents will be required to pick up their student(s) from school.
- Student(s) may return to school with proof of treatment with a pediculicide (receipt of purchase, prescription). Schools will also exclude students with lice eggs (nits) following the first treatment until eggs are removed. Parents/guardians should wash all bedding, coats, hats, combs and brushes in hot water and treat carpets, sofas, etc.
- Student(s) may return to school after initial treatment, as long as nits are not present.
- On return to school, the student must enter through the front office and be escorted to the Health Room to be cleared by the school nurse before returning to class.
- It is recommended that students receive a second treatment seven days after the initial treatment.
- The school designee will send a notification to parents/guardians to inspect their children at home when three or more cases have been discovered in a grade level.
- If there is a sibling at High Point Academy, parents must notify the school to ensure the child is inspected by a school designee.