

Auburn City Schools

PROTOCOL FOR LICE IDENTIFICATION, NOTIFICATION AND FOLLOW-UP

If school personnel suspect a student has lice, the student will be screened by the school nurse or trained designee in a private setting. Every attempt will be made to protect the student's confidentiality and diminish any social stigma or embarrassment to the student and family.

Students identified with live lice or viable nits, (nits within ¼ inch of scalp) visualized by the school nurse or trained designee will be referred to their parent/guardian for treatment. If parent is unable to pick up student the student will remain at school until the end of the school day.

The parent/guardian will be provided with lice information, treatment instructions and a treatment verification checklist. They will be advised to provide prompt treatment, including removal of live lice and nits before returning to school.

Students may return to school the day after being treated. Successful treatment should kill live lice, but nits sometimes persist after initial treatment. The parent/guardian should be advised that a second treatment 7-10 days after the first treatment may be necessary, if recommended by the product instructions. A daily nit check is advisable for at least 10 days following treatment.

Students having been referred for lice may be rechecked in 7-10 days after treatment at the discretion of the school nurse or trained designee.

Siblings and other close contacts who are felt to be in close contact with the person with live lice, at the school nurse's discretion or of other trained designee will be inspected for infestation and referred as appropriate. School wide, classroom or other large group screenings are not recommended.

If there are cluster cases of three or more students in one classroom or a defined setting, notification letters to parents/guardians of students in that classroom may be sent home at the discretion of the school nurse or at the request of the school principal. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to screen and treat their child.

Lice are not a public health threat and no healthy student should be excluded from school because of head lice or nits for extended periods of time. If a student has repeated infestations of live lice or viable nits and there is no apparent adequate follow through by parent/guardian the nurse will consult with the principal to determine appropriate action based on the individual student's situation.

The parent/guardian will be referred to the school nurse if they have questions or treatment and management questions.

Updated 11/14/2019