

PEDICULOSIS (LICE)

Background:

The Division recognizes the concern represented by the transmission of pediculosis in schools and therefore encourages close communication between school staff, parents and public health nurses regarding the detection and resolution of instances of pediculosis. Care shall be taken to protect the individual from undue invasion of privacy.

Procedures:

1. School staff shall work with public health authorities, School Councils and the Occupational Health and Safety Specialist to describe and then communicate to parents both preventative and remedial procedures for dealing with instances of pediculosis (see [Appendix 318-A, Head Lice: Frequently Asked Questions](#)).
2. Parents of infected students shall be requested to pick up students from school as soon as possible for treatment.
3. Students shall be permitted to return to school after they have undergone a recommended course of treatment and there are no live lice present (see [Appendix 318-B, Head Lice: Steps For Effective Treatment](#)).
4. The Principal may require the parent to provide a letter verifying treatment has occurred and, with parent permission, have a trained staff member or volunteer screen the child prior to returning to class.
5. If there are ongoing concerns about particular cases of pediculosis where families are not responding or being compliant with therapy, the Principal or designate shall inform the Public Health Authority of such concerns.

Reference:

Section 11, 33, 52, 53, 196, 197, 222 *Education Act*
Public Health Act

[Appendix 318-A, Head Lice: Frequently Asked Questions](#)
[Appendix 318-B, Head Lice: Steps for Effective Treatment](#)