

Head Lice Policy & Procedure

Head lice are a common occurrence among children, especially in a school setting. While head lice may not always be avoided, we are committed to doing our best to minimize the instances of infection amongst the children and staff. Therefore, the Circle of Care/Developing Mind Elementary School has adopted a “no-nit” policy toward head lice to prioritize prevention and control measures. We will implement this policy and the related procedures in a caring and considerate manner so that a child or children that are affected shall not be emotionally compromised.

POLICY

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PROCEDURES

1. Children shall be checked by Staff every first and third Friday of the month or the first day upon returning from an extended holiday/vacation break.
2. Children or staff that are found to have head lice or nits shall be redirected to engage in activities where they will have minimal contact with other children so that spread of lice is reduced, until parents are contacted.
3. Parents/Guardians will be contacted immediately and encouraged to pick up the child as soon as possible.
4. Parents/Guardians will be provided with information on the detection and treatment of Head Lice in order best treat and remove all active lice and nits.
5. Upon treatment, child will return from school and checked by staff.
6. Staff shall receive annual training on detection of head lice and how to implement measures in a classroom that will help prevent and contain them, should they present.

In the classroom:

1. Upon verification of a child or children with head lice, staff shall take precautionary measures of washing bedding and clothing within a classroom in hot water.
2. Classroom will be thoroughly disinfected, floors and carpets shall be cleaned and vacuumed.
3. Any materials that cannot be washed can be stored away in an airtight bag for 2 weeks.
4. In the event of multiple cases of infection, staff is encouraged to speak with the children to assure them that lice are a common nuisance that can be treated and to remind them of measures on how to minimize their spread (as will be reviewed at the annual training).