

### **Lice Protocol**

1. Report to the school and anyone else who has had contact with the child, that a case of head lice has been found. This information should be regarded as confidential.
2. Check the heads of all family members, using a magnifying glass in a well-lit area. Live nits are usually found close to the scalp, are a yellowish/gray color when laid, and turn to dark brown just before hatching. Even one louse or nit signifies infestation.
3. ***All household members*** except pregnant women and infants should be treated simultaneously, according to the directions the doctor has given you.
4. Once the hair is shampooed or rinsed, use a fine-toothed metal comb or lice comb to remove all nits. This is very time consuming. I suggest you rent a movie to watch during this!
5. All beds should be stripped and the bedding should be laundered in HOT water (over 120 deg. F) and then put in a HOT dryer. Pillows should be placed in a HOT dryer for 40 min. If you have items that are not washable, they should be dry cleaned or bagged in plastic garbage bags for 2 weeks.
6. Thoroughly vacuum mattress and box springs. It is a good idea to turn the mattress. Vacuum under all beds as well. Anti-lice sprays are usually not needed.
7. Thoroughly vacuum rugs, sofas, chairs, and other upholstered furnishings in the home. Bag stuffed animals and store them away from children to avoid the danger of suffocation.
8. Launder all towels in HOT water and dry in HOT dryer. Repeat daily to 14 days.
9. Boil all combs, brushes, and hair accessories for at least 10 minutes.
10. Wash and dry all clothing including coats, hats, scarves, art smocks, and mittens in HOT water and dry in a HOT dryer, or dry clean.
11. Vacuum rugs and upholstery in your car. Leather seats should be wiped down.
12. Disinfect all sports headgear with a 10% bleach solution.
13. Check the child's head, as well as that of other family members, daily for nits for at least two weeks.
14. Your child may return to school after treatment and nit removal.