

School District of Springfield Township

School Health Services

Head Lice (Pediculosis Capitus) Protocol

If a student is suspected (through referral by self, parent/guardian or staff) of having head lice the school nurse will:

1. Examine the student.
2. Determine the presence or absence of an active infestation. An active infestation is defined as head lice and/or nits within ¼ inch of the scalp.

If a student is found to have an active infestation of head lice (pediculosis capitus) the school nurse will:

1. Contact the student's parent/guardian
2. Exclude the student from school.
3. Advise the parent/guardian to contact their physician or pharmacist for treatment advice.
4. Offer information concerning pediculosis care related to home, personal care and laundry.

Students who have had an active infestation of head lice may return to school after the first treatment, providing the following conditions occur:

1. The parent/guardian must bring the student to the school nurse for assessment.
2. The school nurse must verify that the student is free of live lice before admission to class is permitted.

Routine mass or classroom screenings will not be done.

Parents/guardians are responsible for periodically screening their children for head lice.

All cases of pediculosis will be handled in an individual and confidential manner.