

March 28, 2014

The school is required to inform parents of their Head Lice & Nits Policy and the parents' responsibilities to the school concerning head lice and nits via a letter and CLSC information pamphlet with the August back to school packages, on the school website and via kiddy mail throughout the school year on an as needed basis. There should also be a note in the agenda indicating that the school's Head Lice and Nits Policy can be found on the school website.

HEAD LICE AND NITS POLICY

It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to check their child(ren) for head lice/nits on a regular basis. If a child has head lice/nits, parents are required to inform the school immediately.

The CLSC Nurse will come to the school once per year to train and work alongside parent volunteers to perform a school wide lice check.

Further lice checks will be performed by parent volunteers and school staff on an as needed basis and after extended breaks from school, in particular after summer holidays, Thanksgiving weekend, the November report card break, Christmas holidays, March break and Easter weekend.

Students who are absent from school on the day of a school wide lice check will be checked upon their return to school.

If a child is found to have head lice/nits, the child's parent/guardian will be informed immediately by telephone and their child(ren) will be sent home at the end of the day with a note provided to the school from the CLSC. The child must stay home until a first treatment has been done and as many nits as possible removed from the hair. Parents must continue to remove nits from the hair on a daily basis until no more nits are found. Parents must also administer a second treatment to the child's hair as per the instructions on the treatment package. A follow-up check will be performed by school staff or school volunteers, 2 weeks after the initial check and again 2 weeks after that. If lice or a significant number of nits are found at the first 2 week check, the parents will be phoned again and offered assistance and/or a referral. If lice and/or nits are found at the second 2 week check, the principal will follow-up on a case by case basis.

Should further cases of head lice be detected on a child during any subsequent lice checks at the school, the child will be sent home at the end of the day with a note provided to the school from the CLSC. The principal will follow-up on a case by case basis.

The School Administration will inform the entire parent population whenever one or more cases of head lice/nits have been reported in the school. All information concerning identity is kept CONFIDENTIAL

The school will provide lice treatment packages to those families who are in financial need.

Teachers and parents should periodically remind their students/children how to prevent head lice.

Information about head lice detection and the proper treatment of head lice/nits is available from your physician or from the local CLSC.

LICE PREVENTION TIPS:

1. Avoid sharing hats, scarves, coats, combs, brushes, hair accessories or sweaters and any other personal belongings.
2. Keep hats, caps and scarves in coat sleeves when they are hung up at school.
3. Avoid head to head contact.
4. Keep long hair tied back in braids or pony tails.
5. Clean all objects that your child uses on a regular basis including sheets, pillow cases, combs, hairbrushes, hats etc. If your child has sleepovers or attends one, make sure he/she has their own sleeping bag and pillow and wash them when they come home.
6. Look for tell-tale signs of lice which are itchy scalp, red spots on scalp or any rash-like bumps on the back of the neck. Also watch out for nits, they are the eggs that are laid on the hair shaft. They cannot be removed easily; they usually stick on the hair shaft like glue. If you do find these, it is a sign of infestation and you will have to treat your child's hair. It is also advised that you quarantine everything your child has had contact with and disinfect it appropriately.
6. If you want to potentially prevent lice naturally, try using shampoos that contain coconut oil and olive oil. They have fatty acids that break down the exoskeletons of the lice and kill them. You can also try shampoos and conditioners that contain tea tree oil, menthol or eucalyptus oil, lavender oil, and rosemary oil. They don't like the smell and are less likely to stick around. There are many shampoos on the market for both children and adults, one is called Zippity Doo's. You can always add tea tree oil or a combination to your regular shampoo. www.licesquad.com sells lots of products including an essential oil blend which can be added to water and sprayed on the hair daily. PLEASE NOTE, THIS IS NOT A REMEDY OR CURE FOR LICE but rather a potential preventive treatment.
7. You can spray some essential oil blend (see below) in your child's hat.

All natural home prevention oil blend and spray: PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT A
REMEDY OR CURE FOR LICE

25 (drops) lavender, 25 geranium, 15 rosemary, 15 eucalyptus, 15 tea tree, and blue
cyprus or ylang ylang

Up the amounts significantly if you're going to put it in a spray. You can use witch hazel
and some alcohol as a carrier. However, if you're really trying to be preventative or
proactive, straight on their scalps is safe enough as long as it doesn't irritate the scalp.
Patch test first.