

# EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: PEDICULOSIS

ADOPTED: August 19, 2002

REVISED: July 21, 2008

	<p style="text-align: center;">209.1. PEDICULOSIS</p> <p>1. Purpose Pediculosis, infestation of lice and Pediculosis Capitis, infestation of head lice, <del>although not a disease, is a nuisance that can be minimized, identified, and treated. is a fairly common problem among school age children. While head lice is a nuisance, it does not pose a significant health hazard, is not known to spread disease, and can be treated.</del> To protect against this nuisance, the Board has enacted the following procedure regarding head lice.</p> <p>2. Guidelines <u>The East Stroudsburg Area School District Head Lice policy is in line with evidence based practice and is based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the National Association of School Nurses.</u></p> <p>Any time during the school year the school nurse may inspect any student(s) for lice. If nits, <del>lice eggs or live</del> lice are identified during inspection the following procedure will be implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>1. The student will be excluded from school.</del></li> <li><del>2. The parent/guardian will be contacted. It will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to have the child treated. Parent(s)/Guardian who have difficulty obtaining treatment should contact the school nurse.</del></li> <li><del>3. The school nurse will counsel the parent(s)/guardian regarding treatment that may include a referral to a physician or pharmacist, management of the child's environment, prevention, and learning about the treatment and control of head lice.</del></li> <li><del>4. After the student has been treated and all visible nits removed from the head, the student may be readmitted to school.</del></li> </ol> <p><del>Prior to readmission, the nurse will examine the student. To ensure that the nurse will be available to inspect the student, the parent(s)/guardian should call ahead to the school for an appointment.</del></p> <p><del>Also prior to readmission, the parent(s)/guardian must complete and sign the appropriate checklist (Refer to 209.1 Attachment).</del></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>5. There is no specified time allotment for the completed treatment of pediculosis. However, the district will not grant more than three (3) days excused absence unless</del></li> </ol>
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~~requested by a certified physician.~~

~~6. Chronic cases of Pediculosis will be reported to the Superintendent.~~

~~7. When an active case, live lice is detected in an elementary school classroom, a parent alert letter may be sent home and screenings and other measures may be undertaken.~~

Students found to have live lice or nits:

- Parent/guardian is notified by phone if possible
- Student may remain in school until the end of the school day and go home on the school bus unless the parent/guardian chooses to pick up the student.
- If student with suspected head lice remains in school, he/she should be restricted from activities involving close contact including sharing of personal items or hugging other children until treated.
- Information regarding the detection and treatment of head lice will be given to the parent/guardian or sent home with the student in a sealed envelope.
- Parent/guardian is instructed that the student must be treated at home immediately. Any live lice and as many of the nits as possible must be removed before returning to school.
- Parent/guardian is instructed that he/she must accompany student upon return to school. Head check by school nurse must be performed. Evidence of adequate treatment including no live lice and removal of most nits must be found in order for student to return to the classroom. Student should not be out of school for more than 24 hours.
- If live lice are found, student will be sent home for removal of live lice and as many nits as possible. Return to school procedure with head check by the school nurse will be followed.
- If problem persists, school nurse should consult with school principal/administrator to determine if exclusion procedures are necessary.
- If student is able to remain in school after head check, parent/guardian will be instructed to continue checking for live lice and combing hair to remove nits daily for two weeks.
- School nurse will recheck student daily for one week and will then follow up weekly for two weeks to confirm management efforts are effective and being followed at home. School nurse will exercise judgment to determine if further follow up head checks or parental education and instruction is needed.