

Education Service Center PO Box 770 York, SC 29745 Telephone: (803)684-1905

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Dear Parent/ Guardian:

Please do your part to prevent the spread of this communicable condition by checking your child(ren) on a regular basis. Lice infestation is much easier to treat if caught early.

- 1. Watch for signs of head lice, such as frequent head scratching. Anyone can get lice, mainly from direct head-to-head contact, sharing hats, brushes, pillows, etc. **Lice do not jump or fly.**
- 2. Check all family members for lice and nits (lice eggs) at least once a week.
- 3. Be sure not to confuse nits with hair debris, (i.e., dandruff, hair spray droplets or hair casts). Nits are yellowish white, oval shaped and are attached at an angle to the side of the hair shaft.
- 4. Consult a pharmacist or physician before applying pesticides or other lice treatments if anyone involved is pregnant or nursing, has allergies, asthma, epilepsy, has a pre-existing medical conditions, or has nits in the eyebrows or lashes. **Never use a pesticide or lice treatment on or near the eyes.**
- 5. Remove all nits. Separate hair sections and remove nits with a lice comb or your fingernails.
- 6. For lice treatment, follow package directions carefully. Use the products over the sink, not in the tub!
- 7. Wash bedding and recently worn clothing in hot water (above 130° F) and dry on high heat for 30 minutes. Combs and brushes should be soaked in hot water (not boiling) for 10 minutes.
- 8. Avoid lice sprays! Vacuuming is the safest and best way to remove lice or fallen hairs with attached nits from furniture, rugs, stuffed animals, and car seats.
- 9. Notify you child's school, child care provider, play partners.

If your child is found to have head lice at school York School District One prohibits a student who is sent home with head lice from returning to school until he/she meets the following conditions.

- the student shows evidence of treatment as determined by the school
- the student passes a physical screening by the school nurse or principal's designee that shows the absence of head lice

At no time will a student be allowed to return to school without proof of treatment and a screening.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your school principal.

Sincerely,

Bryan Greeson
Director of Special Services