

**MANSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HEALTH SERVICES**

**HEAD LICE (PEDICULOSIS) PROTOCOL**

It is the position of the Mansfield Public School System that the management of pediculosis should not disrupt the educational process. In accordance with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of School Nurses, the Mansfield Public School System adopts the following protocol for the management of Pediculosis (Head Lice).

Because no disease process is associated with head lice, students will not be excluded from school for active infestation or when nits remain after appropriate lice treatment. Students enrolled in the Mansfield Public Schools who are discovered to have an active case of head lice (nits or lice) during school hours will be promptly identified and the following actions taken.

1. When live lice or nits are observed on a student, the parent/guardian will be notified.
2. Students may attend class regardless of the presence of lice/nits but may be dismissed on the nurse's discretion.
3. The school nurse will provide the parent with instruction on proper treatment of head lice.
4. Siblings of the affected child will also be examined by the nurse in their respective building.
5. Once treatment is complete, the student will be checked by the school nurse on return to school and as needed.
6. In the event of recurring infestation, head checks may be more frequent at the discretion of the school nurse.
7. If the infestation is unchanged, the School Nurse may request that the parent/guardian come into the Health Office for instruction on identification and removal of nits/lice.

In addition, the school district endeavors to protect students from head lice infestation by reinforcing the following procedures in instances where head lice are found on a student:

1. Close contacts of affected students will be checked by the school nurse for possible infestation. In grades K-3, this may include classroom head checks.
2. General information will be disseminated as needed via parent newsletters and/or E-backpack to provide education on procedures for home monitoring.