



32

November 20, 2018

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Approval of Revisions to the Cambridge Public Schools Head Lice Policy.

Recommendation: That the School Committee approve the revisions to the Head Lice Policy as detailed in the attached document.

Description: These revisions to the Head Lice Policy follow procedures put in place by the Cambridge Public Health Department.

This is a first reading of these proposed revisions to the Head Lice Policy

Supporting Data: Attached redline of revisions to the Cambridge Public Schools Head Lice Policy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth N. Salim, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

### HEAD LICE POLICY

Head lice continues to be a common community issue especially for children age 3-11. Children can get head lice anytime they are in close contact with others, for example, in schools, at sporting activities, slumber parties and/or camps.

~~Because lice are easily spread among school children, it is the policy of the Cambridge Public Schools not to allow children to return to school until children are treated.~~

~~Additionally, it~~ is the policy of the Cambridge Public Schools that if it is suspected that as student has head lice, the student will be referred to the school nurse.

The responsibilities of the school nurse include:

1. Identifying and confirming whether a child has active head lice.
2. ~~Contacting parent/guardian and advising them of the proper procedures for treatment of active head lice. (Information Handout)~~ On the day the head lice is diagnosed the school nurse will contact the parent/guardian/caregiver to inform them of their child's outbreak. While the child will not be sent home or excluded from school the nurse may offer the parent the opportunity to pick the child up to begin treatment.
3. Screening of an entire classroom is not indicated.
4. Educating/reviewing with classroom teacher environmental strategies for control of transmission in the classroom.
5. Rescreening all students with positive findings, after treatment, on returning to school.
6. The school nurse will discuss with the principal/head of upper school the need for notification of the entire classroom.

Formatted: Font color: Red  
Formatted: Font color: Red

A student with nits (egg cases which attach to a strand of hair) is permitted to attend school while treatment is occurring.

Edited: ~~October 30, 20~~ November 20, 2018 (Draft)

Formatted: List Paragraph, Indent: Hanging: 0.5"