



The Nassau County School District

1201 Atlantic Avenue
Fernandina Beach, Florida 32034

John L. Ruis, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Date: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

During a routine inspection of the hair and scalp of students in your child's school, your child was found to have head lice and/or nits. **YOUR CHILD WILL BE READMITTED ONLY WHEN FREE OF LICE AND NITS.** We are providing the following information for your assistance in the treatment and control of this problem:

Treatment: To treat your child (ren), apply a shampoo specifically recommended for head lice (according to directions on the package or directions given by a physician) and comb hair with a fine tooth comb. This treatment must be followed for all other members of the household.

Precaution: Before treatment of children two (2) years old or younger or pregnant/nursing women, check with your private physician or health clinic for special instructions. **Use of the pediculosis shampoo as a preventive measure is not effective, is not recommended, and could be harmful.**

Treatment of the Home Environment: Perform the following on the same day that the child's hair is shampooed. Launder all clothing, bedding and headgear in hot soapy water. It is preferred that you dry your laundry in a clothes dryer (hot setting), but if you are unable to do this, hang the laundry on a clothesline in the sunshine. Clothes that cannot be washed may be dry cleaned or placed in a plastic bag and tightly sealed for two weeks.

Boil in water or soak in pediculosis shampoo solution all personal items such as combs, brushes, and hair accessories. Vacuum all upholstered items, mattresses, rugs and carpets. When you are finished vacuuming, seal the vacuum cleaner bag in a plastic bag and remove it from the house. Sprays specified for use on objects (e.g. car upholstery and upholstered furniture) where lice may be present can be purchased over-the-counter without a prescription. These sprays are effective, but not a "must" if all other steps are followed. They must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's directions.

Readmittance After Treatment: Students sent home for treatment of head lice will be readmitted through the school office only when they are **personally accompanied** by a parent, guardian or other responsible adult. **They will not be permitted to ride the school bus until cleared by the school.**

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Our mission is to develop each student as an inspired life-long learner and problem-solver with the strength of character to serve as a productive member of society.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



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purchase non-prescription drugs for treatment of head lice. Be sure that the medication purchased is strictly for head lice.

Definition: Head lice are small parasites that live on the skin and attach themselves to hair where they lay their eggs. The eggs (nits) are usually found on the hair shaft.

Spread: Head lice can be spread in the household from other close personal contacts, articles of clothing, and personal items. If undetected and untreated head lice may spread in the classroom. This is usually limited to family members and playmates.

Control Measures: Warn your children that combs, brushes, hats, and scarves should never be shared. Use hot soapy water for laundry, and continue regular inspections of the hair and scalp. Avoid personal contact with individuals who have head lice.

If there is doubt or need for further assistance, contact your family doctor or the local public health unit clinic for advice about treatment.

Sincerely,

Andreu Powell
Coordinator of School Health
Nassau County School Board

AP:mh

Revised 4/02