

SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY 209.1

SECTION: PUPILS
TITLE: PEDICULOSIS (Head Lice)
ADOPTED: January 16, 2002
REVISED:

209.1 PEDICULOSIS

1. Purpose The Board of School Directors is committed to the provision of a healthful environment for all its students and employees. In fulfillment of that commitment, the Board has established this policy statement.

2. Definition **Pediculosis** is the infestation of the hair on the head with the live insect (pediculus capitis) head louse or nits (eggs). The infestation is very contagious.

3. Authority

This policy shall apply to all students and other participants in all programs conducted by the Shaler Area School District.

The management of the School District's pediculosis policy shall be the responsibility of the Department of Pupil Personnel Services.

The Superintendent or his/her designee may contact the Department of Health or Children and Youth Services to enforce this policy.

4. Guidelines
 1. A child shall be excluded from school as evidence of nits or lice is found. Exclusion shall be until after she/he has been treated with a pediculicide and all lice and nits are removed.

 2. The nurse or other school official shall notify the parent/guardian of the head lice infestation by telephone, by a confirming letter, and will provide written confirmation regarding course(s) of treatment.

 3. If a child has been identified as having a head lice infestation, it is the parents' responsibility to provide transportation home for the child. If the

parent/guardian has no transportation or is unable to be contacted by the school, the child will be excluded from the classroom for the remainder of that school day, and an alternative study area will be provided. The student will be sent home at the regular time on the regular route but will be assigned a seat separate from other students.

4. This policy allows for no more than three (3) days of excused absence per incident of head lice infestation and treatment. Additional days absent will be counted as unexcused/illegal and citations for absences may be filed as per District attendance policy. Students may be allowed to make up all school work missed during their absence.

5. Following the third occurrence of pediculosis capitis, all subsequent exclusions from school for pediculosis capitis will be deemed illegal/unexcused absences. Citations for illegal/unexcused absences will be filed as per District attendance policy. Students may be allowed to make up all school work missed during their absence.

Readmission

1. The student must receive appropriate treatment with a pediculicide.
2. The student must have all of the lice nits (eggs) removed from the hair.
3. The student may not ride the bus or attend classes until after she/he has been rechecked by the school nurse. Therefore, the parent/guardian must bring the student to be checked by the nurse after the head lice are treated and the child is free of lice and nits. The parent/guardian is expected to stay at the school until the head lice examination is completed by the school nurse. It may be necessary for the parent to take the child/children to a different school to see the nurse.

Follow Up

1. The school nurse shall recheck all infested students before they may re-enter school and encourage parent/guardian to repeat

pediculicide application per product instructions.

2. The school nurse shall check an infested student's school-age siblings.
3. The school nurse will check classmates, best friends, and relatives as warranted.
4. The school nurse will recheck students within 7-10 days from readmission.