

Indian River School District Pediculosis Procedure

The Indian River School district is committed to providing school environments that promote and protect children's health, well-being and academic success. Therefore, the Indian River School District will promote the health and well-being of a child while maximizing academic success through maintaining confidentiality (*) and emotional support. The following guidelines will be maintained:

Referrals

The school nurse will screen individual student for pediculosis for the following reasons:

- Child self referral
- School/District staff referral
- Parent/Guardian referral
- Community referral (outside coaches, community leaders and outside club/organization leaders) will be a collaborative decision between the school nurse and the school administrator.

Identification and Intervention

- If upon examination no live lice or nits are found, student will return to class.
- If nits (eggs) are present but no live lice, the parent will be contacted. The School Nurse will inquire if recent treatment has occurred. The nurse will educate the parent(s) or guardian(s) on treatment of pediculosis and removal of nits. The child will return to class unless immediate treatment is recommended by the school nurse.
- If live lice are present, the parent/guardian will be contacted, and the student will be sent home for treatment. The child may not return the same day as treatment.
- The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be required to transport the student to school after treatment is completed. Reentry to school will be based on the School Nurse's evaluation.
- If 3 or more individual cases of head lice are found in any one classroom during a 7-10 day period, the School Nurse will check the student's classroom(s). Mass screening of any classroom(s) will be a collaborative decision between the school nurse and the school administrator.
- If 3 or more pediculosis infestations occur on the same student within a short period of time (30-60 days) a referral to the Public Health Department for assistance may be initiated with the parent.
- Phone calls concerning questions about pediculosis will be referred to the School Nurse and/or the IRSD School Nurse Liaison.

*The identity of a child with head lice may be shared only on a need to know basis if the parent(s) or guardian(s) of a student less than 18 years old have given written or verbal permission. The student's identity may be shared with only those persons so designated by the parent(s) or guardian(s) to ensure confidentiality.