

AP 3207: Head Lice

In consultation with the Public Health Unit, schools shall develop a plan for the control of head lice which includes the following steps:

1. Schools will provide basic parent education including information on the importance of regular checks, detection methods and suggested treatment.
2. Parents will be advised that they have the responsibility to inform the school if their child is found to have head lice.
3. Staff shall be made aware of the signs of head lice.
4. Schools may decide to conduct regular head checks using trained volunteers. If a parent objects to this practice, he/she will inform the school administration in writing so an alternate method of checking may be found. (eg. administrator, public health, nurse, doctor)
5. When a child is identified as having head lice, parents will be contacted and arrangements made for the child to receive treatment and removal of the nits. Written information will be provided by the school to the family to assist them in their child's treatment.
6. The student will be allowed to return to school when he/she has received the first treatment.
7. When a case where head lice persists, the child may be asked to return home until he/she is nit free. In such unusual cases, support for the family will be provided through consultation with Public Health.
8. Letters and information will be sent to the parents of other students in the school where a case of head lice has been detected.
9. The Interior Health "Recommended Head Lice Management" document provides direction to parents. Interior Health website: www.interiorhealth.ca.