

HEAD LICE

The San Leandro Unified School District's Governing Board is committed to maximizing students' academic performance and physical well-being in a healthy and safe environment. The Governing Board recognizes that head lice infestations among students require treatment but do not pose a health hazard, are not a sign of uncleanliness, and are not responsible for the spread of disease.

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage early detection and treatment in a manner that minimizes disruption to the educational program and reduces student absences. The Superintendent or designee may distribute information to parents/legal guardians of preschool and elementary students regarding routine screening, symptoms, accurate diagnosis, and proper treatment of head lice infestations.

(cf. 5113 – Absences and Excuses)

The Superintendent or designee will provide related information and training to school staff. School employees shall report all suspected cases of head lice to the site designee, principal or school nurse as soon as possible.

(cf. 5141.3 – Health Examinations)
(cf. 4131 – Staff Development)

The Governing Board recognizes that responsibility for the treatment of head lice rests with parent or legal guardian. When a student is found with live (active or crawling) head lice, the student shall be allowed to remain at school until the end of the day. The parent/legal guardian of any such student shall be notified that day, provided with information about treatment, encouraged to begin treatment and to check all family members immediately. If the parent/legal guardian does not follow through with the proper treatment, the student with lice will be excluded from school until treatment has been completed.

The parent/ legal guardian shall be informed that the student will be checked upon return to school the next day and allowed to remain in school if no active (crawling) head lice are detected. If active lice are detected, the student will not be allowed to return until there is no remaining evidence. If nits are found, the student can remain in school but the site designee or school nurse shall re-inspect the student within 7-10 school days.

HEAD LICE

BP 5141.33(b)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)
(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)
(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

If a student is found consistently infested with head lice, he/she may be referred to the Coordination of Services Team or COST at the school site, or the school nurse to determine the best approach for identifying and resolving problems contributing to the continued infestations.

(cf. 1020 - Youth services)
(cf. 5113 - Absences and Chronic Truancy)

When it is determined that one or more students in a class or school are infested with head lice, the principal or designee may, at his/her discretion, notify parents/ legal guardians of students in that class or school and provide them with information about the detection and treatment of head lice.

Staff shall make every effort to maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice and excluded for treatment.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48210-48214 *Persons excluded*

49451 *Physical examinations: parent's refusal to consent*

Policy
adopted: June 15, 1999
adopted: June 25, 2013

SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
San Leandro, California

Students

AR 5141.33

HEAD LICE

School employees shall follow the steps below when head lice are detected on students:

1. School employees shall report all suspected cases of head lice in the least intrusive/embarrassing manner to the school nurse or site designee as soon as possible.
2. The site designee or school nurse may examine the student and any siblings of affected students or members of the same household.
3. If active (crawling) lice are found, the student shall be allowed to remain until the end of the school day.
4. The parents/legal guardians must be informed by phone, email, or note and provided information about recommended treatment procedures, ways to check the hair, and other resources of information.
5. If nits are found, the student can remain at school but need to be re-inspected within 7-10 school days. If infestation continues, the student will be excluded from school until no active lice are detected.
6. If there are two or more students affected in any one classroom, all students in the class may be examined.
7. The school nurse or site designee will notify parents/legal guardians in the affected classroom to encourage them to check their children and to treat if appropriate, and or examine other students most likely to have had direct head to head contact with the affected student. Information about head lice shall be sent home to all parents/legal guardians in the class.
8. Students identified with chronic cases of lice infestation shall be referred to the Coordination of Services Team or COST for resources and support.
9. Excluded students may return to school when they bring a note from the parent/legal guardian indicating the treatment used and when reexamination by the nurse or site designee shows that all lice have been removed.

Staff shall maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice.

Regulation
approved: August 3, 1999
approved: June 25, 2013

SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
San Leandro, California