

HEAD LICE PROTOCOL

Head lice protocol in the Greenfield School District has changed. Our protocol for head lice now aligns with the evidence based practices and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the National Association of School Nurses. Both the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of Nurses advocate that “no-nit” policies should be discontinued and believe a child should not miss school because of head lice.

Greenfield School District Nurse will now be implementing the guidelines below to support families as they are affected by lice and nits.

- When nits or live lice are found, the school contacts the parents that day and informs them of our findings. Parents may pick their student up from school to treat them, however if the parent is at work or unavailable to pick up their child, they do not need to pick them up early.
- Classroom checks and letters home regarding individual lice cases will be discontinued unless three or more students of the class is affected.

Head lice are wingless insects and cannot jump or fly. They move by crawling, and are mostly spread by direct head-to-head contact – for example, during play at home or school, slumber parties, sports activities or camp. It is also possible, but not common, to spread head lice by contact with clothing, such as hats, scarves, coats or other personal items, such as combs, brushes or towels. As you and your family may deal with this uncomfortable but common issue, keep in mind that head lice infestations are not related to cleanliness and can occur in all socioeconomic groups.

Fall and spring are frequent times of the year when head lice occurrence is identified. We request that you proactively and routinely check your children's hair for the presence of lice and/or their eggs (nits). More information and resources can be found via the web links below.

<https://www.greenfield.k12.wi.us/district/nursing.cfm>

[Center for Disease Control: Head Lice](#)

[National Association of School Nurses: Head Lice 101](#)