

HEAD LICE PROCEDURE

Following recommendations by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), National Association of School Nurses (NASN), North Dakota Department of Health, and Fargo Cass Public Health, it is believed the management of head lice should not disrupt the educational process and therefore the school does not follow a “no nit” policy. No disease is associated with head lice, and in-school transmission is considered to be rare.

In order to control the spread of head lice the following steps will be taken:

- If a student has been identified as having head lice, parents will be contacted to pick up student and instructions will be sent home on how to eliminate all lice and nits (eggs) along with the necessary environmental cleaning required at home. The student’s name will be kept confidential.
- Students found with only nits can stay in school but parents will be notified. Reasoning for this is that nits are strongly attached to the hair shaft and are not easily transferrable to another student’s head and nits further than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the scalp are considered “non-viable” or empty casings, which will not hatch into lice.
- Any student who has been found to have head lice may continue to ride the bus to and from school after being treated.
- Classroom checks will not be done unless several occurrences of lice/nits found in particular classroom.
- Siblings and close friends may be checked if given permission by parents.
- If parent makes school aware of head lice, school nurse will assist in providing weekly head checks on student until all lice/nits are eliminated.