



**COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
PRESCHOOL SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
POLICY**

**NO. 01      ISSUE 1**  
PAGE 1 of 2  
**EFFECTIVE: 07-02-10**  
Updated

**SUBJECT:**

**HEAD LICE (PEDICULOSIS)**

**APPROVED: 07-02-10**

  
**BY: Ron Griffin, Director**

**POLICY**

Daily health checks should decrease the spread of lice at sites. Head lice are insects that live on the human scalp and feed on blood. .

**REFERENCE**

Head Start Performance Standards: Early Childhood Development and Health Services Section 1304.22(b)(1), Conditions of Short-Term Exclusion

**PROCEDURE**

At the site:

- All toys, chairs, tables, cots and bedding will need to be cleaned and sanitized, including the coat hook and cubby..
- The carpet will need to be vacuumed.
- Telephones, headphones, listening centers and hats used in dramatic play area on the site should be cleaned and sanitized.

Staff will stress to parents the importance of cleaning the home environment also:

- Combs and brushes should be soaked in a medicated shampoo. Soaking is recommended for 5-10 minutes at 128° to destroy lice and eggs.
  - Clothes and stuffed animals should be dry cleaned or placed in a plastic airtight bag for 10 days.
  - Clean the car seat, telephone, headphones or anything that is worn in close relationship to the head.
  - Bedding, sheets, towels, and blankets should be washed in hot water that reaches 130° for 20 minutes.
- 
- All members of the household need to be assessed for possible contamination with lice.
  - Other environments such as a caregivers or relatives should also to be treated as appropriate.

Before returning to school:

- Individual must be nit and egg free, as well as symptom free to return to the childcare setting.
- Staff will work with each family to rid child / household, classroom of lice.
- Preschool Services Health Education Specialist can be contacted if the child is out for more than 3 days with head lice.
- Health Education Specialist will do parent education on proper cleaning of Head Lice.
- Site Supervisor will give parent the a book titles "Everything you need to know about head lice".

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS REFERENCE:

1304.22(b)(1)(b) Conditions of short-term exclusion and admittance.

(1) Grantee and delegate agencies must temporarily exclude a child with a short-term contagious illness, that cannot be readily accommodated, from program participation in center-based activities or group experiences, but only for that generally short-term period when keeping the child in care poses a significant risk to the health or safety of the child or anyone in contact with the child.