

# ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

TITLE: HEAD LICE  
CATEGORY: HEALTH AND SAFETY  
NUMBER: 3110

---

## I. Rationale

The Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) believes the key responsibility for the control of head lice rests with the parent/guardian. The school has a role to play in educating staff, students and parents about the early detection, treatment and prevention of head lice infestations. Head lice infestation management procedures shall reflect current research on the detection and treatment of lice infestations. These procedures shall be reviewed on a regular basis in collaboration with Public Health. All intervention should be collaboratively and respectfully planned with parents/guardians.

## II. Practices

A. Early in the school year the district's policy on the control of head lice, together with a summary of information about head lice, their treatment and prevention, will be made available to all parents by way of the school website, email, and /or newsletter.

B. Students with head lice do not need to be sent home. If it is noted that it is possible that a student could have head lice, a parent or guardian of that student should be notified, preferably verbally, but also by note if necessary. Public Health informational brochures outlining procedures for treatment and acceptable treatment agents should be given or sent to the parent or guardian.

C. When cases of head lice are confirmed, families shall be asked to do the following:

1. Contact the school.
2. Treat the child at home.
3. Remove all nits.
4. No excessive cleaning is required in the management of head lice. However, it is a good idea to wash items such as pillow cases, stuffed animals and hats in hot water then dry on high heat for at least 15 minutes (alternately items can be stored in an airtight plastic bag for two weeks) Washing combs and brushes in hot water after use is effective. **Families should be encouraged to place priority on removing nits and live lice rather than excessive cleaning.**
5. Check other family members and treat if head lice are found.

# ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

**TITLE:** HEAD LICE  
**CATEGORY:** HEALTH AND SAFETY  
**NUMBER:** 3110

---

6. Families can access further support through HealthLink BC 811.

D. Notice should be sent home to families indicating there is an active head lice problem in the class/school and that families should be vigilant to prevent further infestations.

E. Families are responsible for controlling infestations for their children by following appropriate lice management guidelines.

**Received:** January 2020  
**References:** Board Policy 11.6