

**SOUTH HUNTINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**60 Weston Street, Huntington Station, New York 11746**



DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT FOR STUDENT SERVICES  
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**HEAD LICE PROTOCOLS**

1. Live lice – notify the principal.
2. Send child home if live lice is found on head. Do not return the child to class but please remember to preserve the dignity of the student.
3. Give parent information sheet and ask them to drive student to school, if possible, the next morning so that the nurse can check the student's head. Have the parent bring proof of treatment, for example, the box from the product that was used.
4. Nits only – Have parent make a concerned-effort to have the child as nit free as possible. Nits are not a reason to exclude the child. The nurse will use her/his best judgment when determining nits. Parents must exam the child and remove all nits before sending the child to school.
5. Classroom checks – screening in schools is not supported by literature. Checking a whole class is time consuming and may not be effective. The life cycle of the louse may be that you won't see anything. The lifecycle of the louse is 10-12 days. If you have a cluster of students >3, it may be worthwhile to check the class.
6. Notification – the best defense is a good offense. Send home a letter in the beginning of the year; information in newsletters and on the website is important. Stress that parents should check their own children regularly. Tell parents what to look for, and to check their child's head on a regular basis. If they are not sure, call the nurse. Letters will be sent home to the entire school if there is a case of lice. Letters will also be sent home to the school where the child had a sibling. This will hopefully prevent the risk of the child being identified and therefore cause less stress on the family.
7. The nurses will notify the other nurses in building where there is a sibling, maintaining confidentiality.