

Auburn-Washburn Head Lice Protocol

1. District staff or parent/guardian may refer a student to the Health Room for a head lice check.

2. A Health Staff member will check the student's head for live lice and nits (eggs). Remember finding a live louse can be difficult as they move quickly. Even if no crawling Lice are seen, finding nits within 1/2 inch of the scalp confirms that a person is infested and should be treated. Treatment should be started when live lice or nits within 1/2 inch of the scalp are observed. Generally, when nits are more than 1/2 inch from the scalp and no active lice are seen, the infestation is probably old and no treatment is necessary.

3. If there is presence of a nymph, adult louse and/or nits within 1/2 inch of the scalp:

- A call is made to the parent/guardian to inform of findings and that student will need to be treated with an anti-parasitic hair product. Information will be sent home for parents/guardians regarding head lice, treatment and prevention.
- Parents will be encouraged to do follow-up by checking their children weekly.
- The Health Staff will check other students who were most likely to have had direct head-to-head contact (i.e. classroom, siblings). If a sibling attends another Auburn-Washburn school, the appropriate school nurse will be notified for the necessary follow-up.
- Parents/guardians will be encouraged to contact their school nurse for further direction as needed.

4. Upon return to school the student will be checked for live lice or nits within 1/2 inch of the scalp.

5. Students will be rechecked in seven days after returning to school.

6. Students who experience chronic problems will be checked weekly.

7. Staff will be checked upon request.

8. When an outbreak occurs (more than a few students) more extensive screening will be done.