

If you find your child has a case of lice, notify the office immediately. Here is a website with additional info on lice: <http://www.metrokc.gov/health/prevcont/headlice.htm>

Head Lice

Head lice are harmless and do not carry any disease. They are not a health hazard or a sign of poor hygiene, but they can be a nuisance. Lice cannot jump, hop or fly. They are spread by head to head contact. Sharing clothing, combs, brushes or hats can also pass them along to another person. Children are most prone to get head lice because they tend to have close physical contact with each other and often share personal items. Please remind your child they should not share combs, brushes, hats or other clothing.

Live lice are gray to brownish in color, about the size of a flea, and look like a tiny crab. Nits are tiny, teardrop shaped transparent eggs that are attached tightly to the hair and cannot be removed without sliding the nit down the hair shaft. The nits are found usually at the nape of the neck, behind the ears, on the crown of the head and close to the scalp. Dandruff or dry scalp flakes can be easily brushed away.

If your child is identified with lice, the school nurse will give you information on treatment options. All students with head lice must be excluded from school and remain at home until treatment is completed and all visible evidence of lice are removed. No child will be readmitted to school unless first checked by a district representative in the school office.

A parent or guardian should accompany their child when they return to school.

For privacy reasons, a student with head lice will not be identified to staff or other students, except staff that provide re-checks and re-entry to school. For the same reasons, letters will be sent to the parents of a class for a single case of lice in that class. Letters are sent only to the parents of the class involved. Remember, transmission can only happen with head to head contact or sharing items that have contacted the head such as combs, brushes, or hats.