

Pediculosis (head lice) is recognized as a common parasitic infestation among school-aged children. Prevention, early detection and treatment are essential for pediculosis management.

The Caldwell County Board of Education's policy on pediculosis seeks to prevent and control infestation of head lice while maintaining confidentiality of each student and without disrupting the educational process of those involved. Students will not be isolated from the classroom nor shall they be required to miss educational time due to nits, consistent with recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of School Nurses.

When a child is found to have head lice, the parents, guardians, or custodians shall be notified either by phone or in writing. Students may return to school upon completion of treatment. Parents, guardians, and custodians shall make every effort to remove all nits and provide proof of treatment. Students will not be admitted to school with live lice.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to be followed in an effort to decrease the number of pediculosis infestations and control pediculosis transmission in school settings.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-36

Cross References: Communicable Diseases – Students (policy 4230)

Other References: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, *Head Lice Fact Sheet*, available at <http://www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.html>

Adopted: June 10, 2013