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Statement of.....

Policy and Responsibility

SUBJECT: HEAD LICE

The Murray City School District follows the recommendation of the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), in that the management of head lice in the school setting is best managed by evidence-based strategies that reduce the incidence of infestations, the social stigma and caregiver strain experienced by students and families, and the negative impact and burden of unnecessary absenteeism that far outweighs the perceived risks associated with head lice.

If a student is suspected of having lice (excessive itching of the scalp, pink rash around ears and neck or student has eggs or live lice on their hair), then a trained district employee can inspect for lice in a setting that ensures privacy avoids undue embarrassment of the child.

- I. Student Lice Screening
 - A. Head Lice and/or Nits
 1. If head lice and/or nits are found during the screening the parent or guardian must be notified and given information on evidence-based treatment. The student can remain in school for the rest of the day with instructions to avoid head-to-head contact. The student must complete the 1st shampoo treatment before returning, and a second treatment should be completed after 7-10 days to kill any newly hatched lice before they can produce.
 - B. When head lice is detected in three (3) or more students within the same classroom, the parents/guardians of other students in the classroom will receive notification and information about identifying, treating, controlling and preventing head lice.

*Note – “Current research does not support the usefulness and effectiveness of classroom or schoolwide health screening for decreasing the occurrence of head lice among children”, Utah Department of Health.