

# Cleary School for the Deaf

301 Smithtown Boulevard, Nesconset, New York 11767-2077  
www.clearyschool.org

631-588-0530 (V & TTY)  
631-588-0016 FAX

## **Cleary School for the Deaf Head Lice Guidelines**

### **Identification of Head Lice & Nits**

Head lice are tiny insects about the size of a sesame seed. They move from one person to another by head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact. They cannot jump to another person's head. Head lice lay eggs which hatch after 7-10 days. It takes about 10 days for a recently hatched louse to grow into an adult and start to lay eggs.

Nits are the empty white egg shells which are left when the lice hatch. Nits look like dandruff but stick strongly to hair. Unlike dandruff, you cannot easily brush out nits.

### **Parents and Guardians Are Responsible for:**

- Knowing head lice signs and symptoms
- Routinely checking their child's head for head lice
- Telling their child's school, close friends, etc., that their child has head lice
- Ensuring that full, proper treatment has been completed before the student returns to school

### **How to Find a Head Louse?**

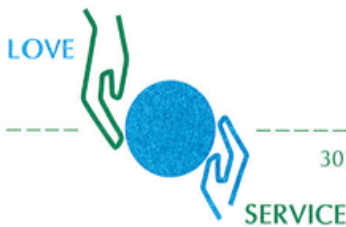
- Severe itching is the most common sign of head lice, so look for head lice and tiny white and gray colored eggs called nits
- Check for the same for yourself and everyone in your household
- Inform school that your child has head lice

For information on how to treat head lice please contact the school nurse:

Roseann Nitz, R.N.

631-588-0530 ext. 218

[rnitz@clearyschool.org](mailto:rnitz@clearyschool.org)



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**When a student is found to have lice at school:** The parent/guardian will be notified and asked to pick their child up from school as soon as possible. The parent will be instructed that the student should be treated before returning to school. Informational and instructional information in regards to treatment will be provided to parent/guardian. Follow-up head checks will be performed by the school nurse. Students found to have active lice on re-examination will once again be isolated until they are lice free. If the student has siblings, it will be recommended to the parents that they notify the school nurse(s) at their other childrens' schools.

**Classroom Environment:** When utilized, nap time cots will not be shared between students. They will be sanitized according to schedule.

If a case of lice is detected, maintenance staff will properly sanitize and clean any impacted areas.

Student blankets and pillows are to be washed and dried or sent home in plastic bags for parents to wash.

An infected student's personal items such as jackets and backpacks will be kept separate in garbage bags until dismissal or until it can be determined that the situation has been resolved.

Dress-up play items will be laundered and dress-up play will be curtailed until the lice concern is resolved.

**Student & Staff Notification:** A general letter to parents will be sent home notifying them that a case of lice has been detected at school. This letter will be shared with staff.

**Bus Transportation:** All bus drivers will be provided with a letter notifying them that a case of lice has been detected in school. No specific student names will be provided.