

## **Community Unlimited Policy for Head Lice**

- Any student with live lice will be sent home immediately.
- Any student with nits within one quarter inch of the scalp may remain in school until the end of the school day. Immediate treatment at home is advised.
- The parent will be responsible for transporting the student to school for the recheck. If, upon treatment and examination, the school-designated personnel find no live lice on the child, the child may reenter the school.
- Any student with nits (farther than one quarter inch from scalp) should be allowed in school.
- Parents should remove nits daily and treat if live lice are observed.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### **Parent's Role**

Parents have the ultimate responsibility for their children. This includes:

- Becoming educated about head lice.
- Performing regular checks on all individuals in the home.
- Treating a child with head lice as soon as possible and committing to following through until there are no longer signs of an infestation.
- Teaching children how to minimize the chance of getting head lice by avoiding head-to-head contact, not sharing hats, combs, brushes, and hair accessories, and by containing long hair in braids or pony tails.

### **School's Role**

- Develop and adhere to Community Unlimited's policies and procedures
- Periodically disseminate current educational materials on head lice to parents:
  - It is recommended to send a general factsheet letter at the beginning and mid-point of the school year, or as necessary.
  - When a significant increase in head lice cases is detected, consider providing general factsheet or parent education letter.

## **Recommended Procedures**

### **Student identified during school hours to have an active case of head lice:**

1. Teacher makes every effort to notify parent/guardian directly to have the parent pick up child from school. Offer emotional support to the parent/guardian as this is a difficult situation for all involved.
2. If the parent is unable to be reached, student may return to class but is restricted from activities involving close head-to-head contact or sharing personal items with other children. The child can be sent home at the end of the day and should be allowed to ride the bus.
3. Send home a copy of the parent letter and the "Quick Guide for Managing Head Lice".