



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
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Commissioner

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
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OFFICE OF
SCHOOL HEALTH

Date: _____

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Please note that your child was found to have head lice. Head lice occur commonly among school-age children. Head lice are not a sign of poor hygiene and anyone can get them. Lice do not transmit infections and do not pose a risk to a person's health.

Attached you will find "Facts About Head Lice" and "Guidance for Families on Getting Rid of Head Lice" to assist you in providing prompt treatment for your child.

New York City schools have a "no head lice" policy which means that:

- Any student who has live head lice is not allowed to attend school until they have received treatment.
- Following treatment, a child will be allowed back in school **only** if his/her hair is free of lice. Students will be re-examined by the principal's designee upon returning to school.
- Students that have been cleared of lice will be re-examined in 14 calendar days (or closest school day if 14th day falls on weekend or holiday) by the principal's designee
- Students found to have head lice on re-examination will once again be excluded until they are lice free

"No Head Lice" policies are supported by national organizations such as American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association and the National Association of School Nurses. Similar policies have been adopted successfully by school systems throughout the country.

We recommend that you check all members of your household for lice and treat them as necessary. We also recommend that you remind your child not to share personal items such as brushes, combs or hats with other students.

If you have any further questions, please consult your healthcare provider or contact the school nurse at

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