

HCS Health Services Lice Policy

- The diagnosis of lice is made by finding lice or nits on the hair shaft. They are most commonly found above and behind the ears, the back of the head/neck, and the crown area. Nits cannot be easily flicked off hair like dandruff. Nits are tightly adhered to the hair shaft and relatively difficult to remove.
- A student with lice or nits found in the hair must be picked up from school and receive treatment. Treatment may consist of over-the-counter remedies, prescription treatments, and/or treatment by a professional lice removal service. The student must be checked by the nurse the next day that they return to school before they return to class. The student may remain at school if no lice/nits found, otherwise they must be picked up and receive further treatment. A follow-up check will then be done one week after a clear check to ensure no re-occurrence.
- If your student has been treated, please be diligent to monitor their hair for dead nits and remove them with a fine comb or lice comb. They can be pulled out using fingernails also.
- If your student has lice, the household must be treated. All linens must be laundered on high heat, including sheets, towels, hats, scarves, pillows. Stuffed animals must be sealed tightly in a plastic bag for two weeks to become free of lice and viable nits.
- If a case of lice is discovered in a preschool through sixth grade class, a letter will be sent to that particular class informing parents to be on alert and take precautions with their students to minimize their risk.
- If more than five students from the same class are found to have lice, a class check may be conducted if determined necessary by the nursing department.
- Random screenings for lice will not be conducted.
- The nursing department will screen a student if requested by a parent and exposure to lice is known/suspected.
- Student confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

- To prevent the spread of lice, avoid head-to-head contact. No sharing of hats, brushes, personal care items, hair accessories. Longer hair should be kept pulled back or in braids.
- This policy is reflective of the Heritage Christian School Health Services Department. It is a policy developed with known information about the contracture and spread of lice with measures deemed appropriate to protect all students, employees, and visitors of Heritage Christian School.