

## ***Pediculosis (Head Lice) Policy***

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Pediculosis is a common problem in school-aged children. Head Lice poses no real health risk to the population and is viewed as not more than a nuisance by health care professionals. However, since the condition can be transmitted to others, proper and successful treatment is essential.

In accordance with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of School Nurses, the Martha's Vineyard Public Schools will follow the steps listed below in dealing with pediculosis (head lice).

1. If a student is identified as having a case of untreated Pediculosis (nits or live lice), he/she will be dismissed to the parents/guardians for treatment.
2. The school nurse will assess siblings and close contacts who attend school.
3. The nurse will educate the students and the parents/guardians on proper identification and elimination of the head lice and nits. Information on the treatment of head lice will be given.
4. The student has to be checked by the nurse prior to returning to school after treatment. A student will be accompanied by his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) until the nurse has made her assessment. The nurse will determine the evidence of treatment and the child may be re-admitted at the nurse's discretion.
5. Notification will be sent home to other parents at the nurse's discretion.
6. Whenever helmets, hats or other headgear are required for an activity, the District will make every effort to treat them thus avoiding the spread of head lice.

{*Adoption Date*} 11.21.2011 by the Up-Island Regional School Committee

1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	-	09.19.2011
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	-	10.17.2011
3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading	-	11.21.2011