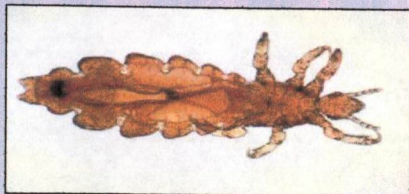


What Are Head Lice??

- *Head lice are tiny wingless insects that can live on the human scalp or at the base of the neck.*
- *Lice live in human hair and feed on tiny amounts of human blood and multiply rapidly by laying eggs called nits. These nits become attached to the base of the hair often resembling dandruff.*
- *An adult head louse is about the size of a grain of salt and can range in color from tan to gray.*
- *Head lice spread through direct contact with an infected person or with shared items such as combs, brushes, hats, clothing, bedding, or towels.*
- *Head lice do not jump, fly, or hop, but can crawl very quickly.*
- *The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates between 6 million to 12 million lice infestations occur each year in the United States.*
- *Head lice is the second most communicable disease among school age children behind the common cold.*
- *Anyone can get head lice ; they are not a sign of being dirty.*
- *Itching and scratching of the scalp may be the first sign of head lice.*



For more information regarding head lice contact your medical provider, the local health department at (540) 743-6528, or one of our following schools to speak directly with your school nurse.

Luray Elementary School
(540) 743-4078

Luray High School
(540) 743-3800

Luray Middle School
(540) 843-2660

Page County High School
(540) 652-8712

Page County Middle School
(540) 652-3400

Shenandoah Elementary School
(540) 652-8621

Springfield Elementary School
(540) 743-3750

Stanley Elementary School
(540) 778-2612



Page County Public Schools
735 West Main Street
Luray, VA 22835
Phone: (540) 743-6533



Head Lice:
Schools and
Parents
Managing The
Problem
Together



Page County Public Schools
735 West Main Street
Luray, VA 22835
(540) 743-6533



Head Lice Treatment And Prevention

It is important to remember head lice are a nuisance but they can be effectively treated. Make sure a correct diagnosis or identification of head lice has been made.

THE FOUR CRITICAL STEPS IN THE TREATMENT OF HEAD LICE:

- Using an effective head louse treatment and carefully following the treatment application directions. Many medicated products are available over the counter generally containing either pyrethrin or permethrin. Persistent lice infestations may need a physician prescribed treatment.
- Removing the nits from the hair by repeated combing with a nit comb.
- Treating household family members and removing lice and nits from the home environment by vacuuming, washing, and storing objects suspected being infested.
- Frequent head checking until the infestation is completely gone followed by weekly head checks to detect lice recurrence.

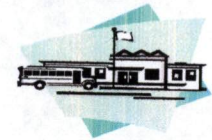
HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF HEAD LICE

- ♦ Observe your child for frequent head scratching
- ♦ Check your child's head regularly especially after sleepovers with relatives and friends and during lice outbreaks at school
- ♦ Teach your child not to share personal items which are used on their head like combs, brushes, hair accessories, hats, and towels
- ♦ Consider keeping long hair pulled back or braided
- ♦ Teach your child to avoid head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact during play and other activities
- ♦ Notify your school nurse if you think your child has head lice or you have treated your child for an infestation



Page County Public Schools are committed to a lice policy which does not interrupt the educational process for students along with protecting the confidentiality of students who are under treatment for lice. Below is an outline of our current head lice policy:

- ♦ Students with their first infestation of live lice cannot remain in the classroom. Parents are contacted and students are sent home for treatment. Students may return to class the next day once treated and checked by the school nurse to verify no live lice are visible.
- ♦ Students with their second infestation of live lice are once again not allowed in the classroom and are sent home for treatment. These students may return to school the next day once treated and checked by the school nurse to verify no live lice are visible.
- ♦ Students with their third infestation of live lice infestation are not allowed in the classroom and are sent home for treatment. These students can return to school once treated and checked by the school nurse to verify no live lice and/or nits are visible. After the third infestation, students must be NIT-FREE!!
- ♦ Students with lice infestations are re-checked by the school nurse in seven to ten days as follow-up for recurrence.



School Division Head Lice Policy and Procedures