

Lice Policy

Children in Franklin County Head Start will not be denied entry into the classroom if nits are found. Head Start employees are responsible for educating the families on effective nit and lice treatment.

Lice Procedure

Teachers:

- Teachers will conduct head checks during center time or individualizations on each student every Monday and note any findings on the daily health checks.
- If nits are found, the child remains in the classroom and the family is notified with a phone call. The teachers need to ask the family if they need the nit/lice treatment (shampoo, shower cap, nit comb) for their child. If so, the teachers can give the family the necessary treatment.
- Teachers will remove and bag (black plastic) the dramatic play clothing, any soft furniture items, and toys until the nits/lice have been eradicated and cross contamination is minimal.
- Teachers will inform the cleaning company that there is an active case of lice in their classroom and to use a separate vacuum bag for their classroom until nits/lice are no longer found.
- If lice are found, a phone call is made to the family immediately. A parent/guardian will be asked to retrieve the child from school and begin treatment.
- If lice are found, teachers should send home the "Head Lice Alert" to each family.
- If the classroom uses cots and nits/lice are found, the teachers will spray each cot daily with the LICE LOGIC spray until the nits/lice are eradicated.
- If nits/lice are found, teachers will conduct daily head checks until the nits/lice are eradicated.

Parents/Guardians:

- Parents/guardians will use the nit/lice treatment on the child the same day they were notified of having nits/lice.
- All members who reside with the identified child are advised to check their head for nits/lice.
- If nits/lice are found, members who reside in the household can apply olive oil, coconut oil, or mayonnaise to their scalp and cover with a plastic bag (i.e. walmart bag or shower cap) for 8-12 hours. After 8-12 hours, wash out the oil or mayonnaise and comb hair with nit comb. This procedure will be implemented every other day until nits/lice are eradicated.
- Parents are encouraged to use the nit comb daily to ensure the removal of the nits/lice from the scalp.
- All clothing and bedding is advised to be washed immediately and dried on high heat. If a washer and dryer are unavailable, it is recommended to seal toys, bedding, and clothing in a black plastic bag for 2 weeks.

- If lice are found, parents will provide transportation to and from the center until nits/lice are no longer present.
- Parents are encouraged to see their child's PCP for additional treatment/support.

Transportation:

- Bus drivers will be notified by the teacher if a child is found with nits/lice.
- Bus drivers will treat each seat with LICELOGIC all purpose lice spray.
- If the child has lice, the family is responsible for transportation to/from the center.
- If the child has nits, Head Start will provide transportation. After each bus run, the driver is responsible for treating each seat with LICELOGIC.

Family Advocates:

- Family Advocates will visit with the family within 24 hours after being notified by the teachers of a child presenting with nits/lice.
- Family Advocates will establish a goal with the family to assist them in eradicating the nits/lice.
- The Family Advocate will be responsible for checking in with the family bi-weekly on the nits/lice removal.
- If nits/lice are found after several weeks or there have been multiple occurrences of nits/lice, the Family Advocate will notify the Health Department and additional education/support will be provided.