

**ACTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

HEAD LICE (PEDICULOSIS) PROCEDURE

The Acton Public Schools and Acton-Boxborough Regional School District have adopted a “no nit” policy that states that students must have no nits in their hair before they can return to school. This increases the likelihood that the child is truly rid of the infestation. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to report all cases of head lice infestation and reinfestation to their child’s school nurse immediately.

1. Information concerning pediculosis will be distributed to households of elementary school children at the start of school each September and posted on the Web site. School staff do not recommend or support specific treatment options; families are encouraged to consult with their pediatrician or family health care provider.
2. When a child is found to have pediculosis, the school nurse will notify the child’s parents and the child will be sent home for treatment.
3. When a case of pediculosis has been reported by a parent or confirmed by the school nurse, the teacher will be informed and a notification letter will be sent home with all children in that classroom.
4. The school nurse will do a follow-up head check for the affected child before the child returns to class. Any remaining nits will be removed; however, if a significant number of nits are found, the child will be sent back home for removal. Individual head checks will be made at other times at parent request.
5. In any classroom where three or more students have been determined to be infested, all students in that class will be rechecked in one week and again two weeks later.
6. In any classroom where three or more students have been determined to be infested, the following environmental procedures will be implemented as well:
 - * Jackets and hats will be separated, i.e. placed in bags or at least not hung in a common area until rechecks have determined that the problem has been controlled.
 - * As determined by staff, areas of the classroom may need to be treated on an individual basis, i.e. isolation of head phones, vacuuming of rugs, and placement of pillows in plastic bags for a two to three week period.
 - * Hearing and vision testing of elementary students in an affected classroom will be postponed.