

MVISD Head Lice Policy

Head lice, although not an illness or a disease, is very common among children and is spread easily through head-to-head contact. Because lice spread so easily, the district will need to exclude any student found to have live lice until after one treatment of an FDA-approved shampoo or cream rinse and/or until the child is free of live lice.

If careful observation indicates that a student has head lice, the school nurse will contact the student's parent and inform the parent that the child will need to be picked up from school and will need to stay home until after an initial treatment is applied. The student should be treated immediately and should return to school later the same day or the next day. After the student has undergone one treatment, the parent should bring the child to the school nurse for an examination and should bring proof of treatment (box top or label). The nurse can also offer additional recommendations, including subsequent treatments and how best to get rid of lice and prevent their return.

Mass screenings for lice are no longer recommended. However, if a nurse notices a number of students from the same class with lice, she may, as time permits, screen the entire classroom. Every effort will be made to insure the privacy of the child.

More information on head lice can be obtained from the TDSHS Web site at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/schoolhealth/lice.shtm>.

Approved by the MVISD School Board 5-20-13