



# Northeastern Catholic District School Board

## CONTROL OF HEAD LICE

**Policy Number: E-27**

**Authority: 99-324/12-49/16-31/19-88/  
22-50**

### POLICY STATEMENT

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The Northeastern Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) is committed to maintaining healthy school environments for all students and staff. Though pediculosis (head lice) is not a health or education issue, every district school board has a responsibility to work in partnership with local health units to help educate families in the identification, prevention and control of head lice. To help minimize the risk of infestations and the spread of head lice, it is understood that standard precautions and procedures must be followed by NCDSB schools.

### REFERENCES

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Porcupine and Temiskaming Health Units  
**NCDSB Administrative Procedure**  
APE031 Control of Head Lice

### DEFINITIONS

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#### **Head Lice**

Head lice are tiny insects that infest the scalp and hair of the human head.

#### **Pediculosis**

Pediculosis is an infestation with head lice, usually involving less than ten live lice. Pediculosis is considered to be a nuisance and not a health hazard.

#### **Nits**

Nits are referred to as the eggs that lice lay on the head or scalp.

### POLICY REGULATIONS

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- 1.0 The parent/guardian is the primary person responsible for the management and treatment of pediculosis.
- 2.0 All staff members are expected to demonstrate the attributes that define our Board as a caring Catholic community. Issues and procedures related to pediculosis are to be dealt with in a sensitive and respectful manner. At all times, students are to be treated with respect, dignity, and where necessary, with privacy in matters related to pediculosis.

- 3.0 The NCDSB will work with health community partners and school staff members to increase understanding and awareness of pediculosis as it relates to its identification, transmission and treatment.
- 4.0 Administrative procedures will accompany this policy and be reviewed regularly to ensure a consistent school response in dealing with pediculosis.