

## **SunRidge School**

### **Protocol Regarding Lice**

The common head louse turns up on students from time to time, and, while lice are not a health concern, infestations can be extremely time-consuming to eradicate. For this reason, it is essential that parents take quick and thorough action when nits (lice eggs) or lice are discovered on their children.

As an ongoing proactive measure to minimize possible lice infestations, SunRidge School encourages parents to conduct regular lice screenings at home. More frequent checking at home is advised if there are cases of nits or lice in a class. As a general preventative, students should be advised to avoid hair-to- hair contact, and to not share clothing, hats, brushes or combs.

Twin Hills District Schools, including SunRidge, follow the recommendation of the California Department of Public Health that students not be kept out of school if nits or lice are discovered in their hair. Research indicates there is no benefit to sending children with nits or lice home for the day in terms of lice eradication or limiting the spread of lice. All major health organizations now recommend against removing children from school if nits or lice are present on a child.

If nits or live lice are seen on a child, the child's parents will be informed. Parents are expected to provide treatment that night. Parents are to bring their child to the office to be checked by school personnel prior to returning to class. If nits or lice are still present upon re-examination, the parents are informed and the child may return to class. When the school has been made aware of nits or lice being present, the parents of all students in that class will be notified of the occurrence without divulging the name of any child. Please help us respect each child's confidentiality.

SunRidge School cannot prescribe which lice treatment products parents should use. When nits or lice are identified on a child, we will provide resources for information about lice and their treatment. It is the parent's responsibility to become informed about treatment options and to use their own judgment in choosing a treatment. It is also the parent's responsibility to begin a treatment program if their child has nits or lice, and to continue treatment as needed until the infestation is eliminated. The California Department of Public Health recommends the brochure, A Parent's Guide to Head Lice, which can be found at:

[http://www.cdph.ca.gov/health info/discond/documents/2012headliceeng.pdf](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/health%20info/discond/documents/2012headliceeng.pdf)

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