INTRODUCTION

The control of head lice, medically known as Pediculosis, is a shared responsibility between parents/caregivers, school staff, students and public health nurses and all have a part to play in controlling this ongoing issue. Each school shall have a Pediculosis Program in place, designed in accordance with its needs, however, it is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to check and treat their child(ren).

EDUCATION AND PROGRAMS

Education about the identification, treatment and prevention of head lice is important to the success of any Pediculosis Program. The intent of the program is to respond to the presence of Pediculosis in our schools and to establish guidelines to prevent recurring outbreaks.

Individual school Pediculosis Programs may be designed in collaboration with the School Council or other community resources such as the Public Health Department.

RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to ensure their child(ren)’s infestation has been effectively treated with appropriate hair products and that all nits have been removed.

It is the responsibility of school administration to promote awareness and understanding through education and to give attention to the health, cleanliness and comfort of all pupils.

SCREENING

Screening for Pediculosis is at the discretion of the School Administrator(s), who may use volunteers from the school community to conduct the head checks.

School based screening programs must include attention to confidentiality and sensitivity to students and their families.

Reference

Administrative Procedure 1-27: Head Lice (Pediculosis)