Pediculosis Policy

**Purpose:** To contain infestation, provide appropriate health education regarding treatment and prevention, minimize school absences, and prevent overexposure to chemical therapy, for Head Lice.

**Rationale:** Head lice are endemic worldwide. Head lice infestations are not a sign of poor hygiene, are not a source of disease, and do not pose any health hazards. Most cases occur in the United States among preschool and elementary age children (3-12 years of age) and their families. Accurate diagnosis/identification and appropriate treatment are important. Greensboro Day School follows the current recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control, and the National Association of School Nurses with regard to our pediculosis policy.

**Policy:** Communication is essential to the appropriate management and treatment of pediculosis. Parents are expected to report all suspected cases of head lice to the school nurse. The school nurse will examine the student for signs of an infestation.

- If live lice are found the parent will be confidentially contacted by the school nurse and asked to consult with their health care professional regarding appropriate treatment. Immediate exclusion of students with live lice will be up to the discretion of the school nurse.

- Parents of students with pediculosis will be encouraged to contact the parents of children with whom their child has had close contact. Confidentiality, by the health room staff will be maintained at all times.

- Students with head lice will be checked by the school nurse upon returning to school and again within 7-10 days after treatment.

- Parents of students with pediculosis are expected to provide the school nurse with information about the type of treatment used/prescribed by their health care provider.

- Siblings of students with head lice will be checked by the school nurse. Classroom head checks will be conducted at the discretion of the school nurse.

- If viable nits are found, in the absence of live lice, the parent will be confidentially contacted by the school nurse and asked to contact their health care provider regarding appropriate treatment. The student will remain in class until the end of the school day. The school nurse will recheck the student in 7-10 days and follow up with the parent.

**Education/Prevention:** This policy will be updated regularly, as new scientific evidence and research findings become available. Annual educational programs will be provided to faculty, students, and parents regarding this policy, prevention measures, and treatment options.

**References:**


Signed: ______________________________________

Mark C. Hale, Head of School

August 10, 2016