



## City of Milford, Connecticut

- Founded 1639 -

### HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Telephone: (203) 783-3285

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### MILFORD SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Head lice can be a problem in our community as it is in neighboring communities. Lice are highly communicable and difficult to prevent. If every parent takes the responsibility to check the entire family's hair and scalp often, the spread of these parasitic insects can be controlled.

Lice are small insects, 1 - 2 mm. long, and vary in color. They move quickly and are difficult to see. **Diagnosis is often made on the basis of finding nits (louse eggs.)** These are tiny, white, oval-shaped eggs firmly attached to the hair shafts. Nits can be found throughout the hair, but are most often located behind the ears and at the nape of the neck or on the base of the scalp.

Children seen scratching their heads frequently should be examined at once. Often red bite marks or scratch marks can be seen on the scalp and neck.

If you discover your child has head lice, do not be embarrassed to notify your child's school nurse so that other parents can be alerted to a possible outbreak of head lice. Also notify the parents of your child's recent playmates. Parental cooperation will help protect all children, including your own.

If you have any questions, please call your child's school nurse.