

Head Lice Procedure

Policy/Approach:

SOCFC provides opportunities for healthy growth and development including establishing daily routines for each child served. Children will have a daily health check, wash their hands at required times, and brush their teeth daily according to established procedures and with the guidance and support of trained staff. Staff will also follow Health and Safety Institute training, and diapering and toileting procedures as needed for each child.

Head Start Program Performance Standards:

§1302.47(b)(6) Hygiene practices

Our procedures are subject to adjustment based on Public Health needs or advisory from either our local, state or federal governing bodies. Any temporary modifications to procedures in this event will be documented and shared with staff.

Procedure:

If lice are found at the Daily Health Check:

- When the parent/guardian is present, have them use the Robi Comb in the parent room or another private space prior to the child entering class. Staff may need to coach parents in the use of the Robi Comb; see [Robi Comb Directions](#).
- When the parent/guardian is not present, the child should attend class. Treatment can wait until after the child goes home. Notify the parent after class that lice were found. Work with the parent to implement the Head Lice Checklist.
- Classroom staff may remove dramatic play clothes and bike helmets to help limit spread. If not removed, staff should ensure clothes and helmets are cleaned before another child uses them.
- SOHS does not post notification for lice, instead supports the child and family in treating it. Staff will provide support and education.

If lice are still present after the first day they are identified:

- When the parent/guardian is present, have them use the Robi Comb prior to the child entering class.
- When the parent/guardian is not present, the child should attend class.

Treatment can wait until after child goes home. Notify the parent after class that lice were found again. Work with the parent to implement the Head Lice Checklist; you can also request a head lice kit from the Main Office to lend out to the family to assist them.

- With parent permission (part of the Head Lice Checklist), center staff can use the Robi Comb on the child prior to the child entering class.

Head Lice Kits are available to check out from Health Services for the family. The kit can be kept by the family as long as needed, then needs to be turned back in to Health Services. This kit is in a tote bag and contains:

- Handout- Head Lice: Helpful ways to treat at home
- Reading Book – “Bugs in My Hair?!”
- Coloring Book on Lice w/ crayons.
- Head Band Magnifier w/ light.
- Critter Card – Guide to Identifying Lice & Nits
- Standard Lice Hand Comb
- Alligator Hair Clips
- Antiseptic Wipes