

Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School

Board of Trustees Policy

HEAD LICE POLICY

The Board of Trustees of the Urban Pathways K-5 College Charter School (“Charter School”), recognizes the need to provide a safe and healthy environment to its students, staff and community. As such, Charter School administrators, staff, contractors and volunteers should be trained on the signs and symptoms of lice and nits in order to notify the Charter School Nurse of suspected or actual situations and/or to understand what interventions to provide when the School Nurse is not available.

The Charter School has developed the following procedures to limit a student’s absence from the Charter School due to having lice or a reasonable suspicion of same. The following procedures shall occur:

1. The suspecting charter school personnel shall contact the Charter School’s Nurse or his/her office to alert them of the suspected or actual signs of lice and what student(s) may or are actually affected. Charter School personnel shall send any suspected and/or affected students to the Charter School Nurse for assessment.
2. Any child suspected of having lice shall avoid activities that involve contact with other children or sharing of belongings that might come into contact with lice, **until being assessed by the Charter School Nurse and cleared as to no longer having nits or lice.**
3. Children identified by the Charter School Nurse or designee as having lice will return to class until a parent or guardian is able to pick them up.
4. A copy of the Department of Health’s Head Lice Treatment page below will be sent home with identified children and to those possibly affected. This includes Parents working with the Charter School Nurse to answer questions on treatment and approved medications.
5. Any Charter School students living in the same home as a student identified as having lice/nits should also be checked according to the above protocol. It shall be the responsibility of the Charter School Nurse to ensure this information is provided to Charter School CEO/Principal for compliance with this policy.
6. Classrooms of the affected student(s) do not need to be evacuated or checked for lice. However, teachers shall inform students not to share personal items that

might spread lice or nits which include but are not limited to hats, combs, brushes, or articles of clothing such as scarves, coats, sweaters or otherwise.

7. Upon returning to the Charter School, affected students may be seen by the Charter School Nurse to confirm no presence of active lice/nits.

In accordance with PA Department of Health guidelines: a student shall be allowed to return to either the school, child care or other group setting immediately after first treatment. The student shall be reexamined for infestation by the Charter School nurse, or other health care practitioner, 7 days posttreatment.

For specific information on the treatment of head lice/nits, please visit the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Head Lice Treatment page:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Head%20Lice%20Treatment%20.pdf>

Training on this policy, including how to recognize the presence of lice and nits will be provided by a Registered Nurse or physician licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Charter School administrators, staff, contractors and volunteers will be provided with information and training to understand how to identify a student with actual or suspected head lice/nits in the school setting, who to report the finding to, steps to take to minimize the spread of lice/nits in the classroom and school setting, and information to provide to both students and Parents about treatment and prevention.

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH THE SCHOOL'S CHARTER OR APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS AND/OR CHARTER CONTROL.