



Gladewater ISD

Health Services

Head Lice Guidelines

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Gladewater ISD Board of Trustees and school administrator's main concern is regarding the safety, health, and wellbeing of the students within the district. We would like to ensure the safest environment possible for each student while they are on our campuses.

Head lice is very common among children. Although not an illness or known to transmit disease, head lice spread through head-to-head contact during play, sports, nap time, and when children share things like brushes, combs, hats, and headphones. The Texas Department of Health leaves head lice policies up to the school district to determine.

At **Gladewater ISD** the district does not require that students be removed from school because of lice or nits.

If careful observation indicates that a student has head lice, the school nurse will contact the student's parent to discuss a treatment plan using FDA-approved medicated shampoo or cream rinse that may be purchased from any drug or grocery store. After the student undergoes one treatment, the parent should contact the school nurse to discuss the treatment used. The nurse may excuse the student and offer additional recommendations, including subsequent treatments, how best to get rid of lice, and how to prevent lice from returning.

Remember that MANUAL removal of nits (eggs) is essential for treatment success.

The district will provide notice to parents of primary or elementary school students in an affected classroom without identifying the student with lice.

More information on head lice is available on the DSHS website

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/texas-school-health/skilled-procedures-texas-school-health/managing-head-lice-school>

Thank you,

Marissa Blanco, BSN, RN GISD District Nurse