

## Sejong Head Lice Policy

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure students infested with head lice or nits have equal access to a free and appropriate education while mitigating the spread of head lice in school.

### II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. Sejong Academy recognizes the impact of regular attendance on student achievement. There is no evidence that head lice spreads disease, thus, students with live lice or nits should not be excluded from school.

B. Head lice are an annoyance and create discomfort. The ability to learn is likely impacted when children are uncomfortable. Sejong Academy is committed to teaching the whole child, which includes basic needs are met.

C. Sejong Academy will mitigate the spread of head lice by regular cleaning, head checks, and rechecks of students identified as potentially having lice, Sejong Academy will assist students with head lice or nits by providing educational material for families and, when needed, lice kits.

### III. HEAD LICE PROTOCOL

A. Staff are to report potential head lice cases to the office staff, Executive Director, and Principals.

B. The Executive Director assigns a designee who will do a head check.

C. If live lice or nits are present, the parent/guardian will be contacted and informed lice/nits have been found, explain that information will be sent home with the student at the end of the day and that the student needs to be treated prior to returning to school the next day. The school will send home a lice letter and information to help treat and prevent lice.

D. If a student continues to have head lice/nits, Sejong Academy will refer the family to outside health services.

### References:

National Association of Nurses: Head Lice Management in Schools

<https://www.nasn.org/nasn-resources/professional-practice-documents/position-statements/ps-head-lice>

Minnesota Department of Health: Head Lice Fact Sheet

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/headlice/headlice.html>

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/headlice/index.html>

Center for Disease Control: Head Lice Information for Parents

<https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/parents.html#:~:text=Children%20diagnosed%20with%20live%20%20head,treatment%20should%20kill%20%20crawling%20%20lice.>