

**Symptoms:**

- Adult lice, larvae and nits on the scalp.
- Itching and irritation of the scalp and skin.
- Eggs/nits attached to the hair shaft close to the scalp.

**Transmission:**

- Contact with an infected person.
- Sharing hats, combs, brushes or anything that has been in contact with an infected person.

**Incubation period:**

- Nits (eggs) hatch in about 1 week. Lice lay eggs again after about 8-10 days.
- Lice cannot live away from a person for more than 48 hours and nits will not live away from a person for more than 7 days.

**Communicable period:**

- From the time of infestation until treatment(s) have been completed.

**Treatment:**

- Exclusion from attendance until after the first treatment has been completed and no nits are visible.
- Child must be treated again in 7-10 days.

**Helps for parents/guardians:**

- Remove nits by using a fine tooth comb (included with the treatment kit)
- Loosen nits by applying a damp towel to the scalp for 30-60 minutes or by applying olive oil to the scalp the night before combing out the nits.
- Read manufacturers directions carefully.
- Clean the area very well:
  1. Launder washable items in hot water and use the hottest drying cycle possible.
  2. Non-washable items may be placed in a black plastic garbage bag and sealed for 7-10 days.
  3. Dry cleaning items are also effective.
  4. Soak combs and brushes in very hot water for 10 minutes.