

 PORTSMOUTH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
Policy: Tick
Reviewed on: 12/10/21
Approved by:

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Removal:

1. Perform hand hygiene and don gloves.
2. Use fine-tipped tweezers or a tick removal tool to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
3. Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick (this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers.)
4. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.

Bite Site Hygiene: Thoroughly clean the bite area with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.

Disposal:

1. Dispose of a live tick by putting it in alcohol or wrapping it tightly in packaging tape and place it in a sealed bag/container.
2. Date/time/initial the bag and give it back to the student so they may take it home.
3. Remove gloves and preform hand hygiene.

Follow up:

1. Screen the student for signs and symptoms of tick borne illness.
 - Rash
 - Fever
 - Fatigue
 - Headache
 - Muscle pain
 - Joint swelling and pain
2. Contact the students' parents and advise of the bite
3. Advise of any symptoms reported by the student
4. Advise of need to monitor for signs and symptoms of tick borne illness for 30 days following the bite.
5. If symptoms reported, advise the student's PCP must be contacted as this indicates infection of tick borne illness.
6. If no symptoms are reported, recommend parent call students healthcare provider to see if prophylactic antibiotics are required.

References:

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases \(NCEZID\), Division of Vector-Borne Diseases \(DVBD\)](#)