



Got Bed Bugs At School?

DON'T PANIC:

- ~~The issue of bed bugs in a school can be emotional and cause anxiety, however, schools are unlikely to be infested with bed bugs.~~
- One bed bug is not the same as an infestation.
- Bed bugs can be avoided and controlled.

DON'T CLOSE THE SCHOOL:

- Although, bed bugs have been recognized and are considered a pest of “Significant Public Health Importance”, they are not known to transmit disease.

DON'T EXCLUDE OR STIGMATIZE:

- Never exclude a student or faculty from school because of bed bugs.
- Bed bugs are not related to cleanliness or sanitation, anyone can get bed bugs.
- Missed days of school have a negative impact on a student's academic achievement.

DON'T USE PESTICIDES:

- ~~Pesticides are used as a last resort and only pesticide products that pose least toxic, least risk of exposure are chosen.~~
- **Only licensed professionals** may legally use pesticides in school or child care facilities

DO COMMUNICATE:

- ~~It is important to report a known or suspected incidence of bed bugs to school staff and parents.~~
- ~~The earlier a problem is identified, the easier it is to handle/eliminate bed bugs.~~

DO USE REGULAR CLEANING, ORGANIZING, AND HEAT:

- ~~Vacuum all floors, corners, and rug edges~~
- ~~Wash tables, chairs, mats, and floors.~~
- ~~Discard unnecessary items to lower clutter.~~
- ~~Steam clean rugs and furniture.~~
- ~~Store items in clear plastic bins with tight fitting lids.~~

DO FOLLOW SCHOOL IPM:

- ~~Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a safe, effective, and scientific approach to managing pests.~~
- ~~IPM uses knowledge of pests' habits and needs to help implement pest prevention tactics as a first line of defense.~~
- ~~Pesticides are used as a last resort and only pesticide products that pose least toxic, least risk of exposure are chosen.~~

