

Fern Flower - Nature School Location: 3827 Charlton Dr, Qualicum Beach, BC V9K1Z3 Phone Number: 250-299-2054

E-mail: fernflowernatureschool@gmail.com

# Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye) Outbreak

We hope this message reaches you in good health. We're reaching out to inform you about a recent increase in cases of conjunctivitis (commonly known as Pink Eye) within our Nature School community. As we prioritize the well-being of our little ones, we're sharing crucial information and preventive measures to address and contain this outbreak.

### **Recognizing Symptoms:**

Conjunctivitis symptoms include redness, itching, excessive tearing, and the presence of a discharge in one or both eyes. If your child exhibits any of these signs, please take precautionary measures and keep them at home until fully recovered.

#### **Preventive Measures:**

- Encourage Good Hand Hygiene: Reinforce the importance of thorough handwashing, especially after touching the face or eyes, and avoid rubbing the eyes.
- Avoid Touching Eyes: Discourage children from touching their eyes, face, or sharing personal items like towels or washcloths.
- Isolate Contaminated Items: If your child is diagnosed with conjunctivitis, ensure their personal items like pillows, towels, and washcloths are kept separate to prevent the spread of the infection.
- Prompt Cleaning and Disinfection: Increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting surfaces, toys, and common areas to minimize the risk of contagion.
- Seek Medical Attention: If you suspect your child has conjunctivitis, consult with a healthcare professional promptly. Follow their advice and treatment plan.

### Our Commitment to Safety:

Our dedicated staff is implementing enhanced cleaning protocols, and we are closely monitoring the health of all children attending our Nature School. Should any child show symptoms of conjunctivitis, immediate isolation will be ensured, and parents will be informed promptly.

### **Your Cooperation Matters:**

We request your cooperation in maintaining a healthy environment. If your child is experiencing symptoms, please keep them at home to prevent the further spread of the infection. Open communication is key; please inform us of any signs your child may be exhibiting.

#### Resources:

For any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to 250-299-2054 or <u>fernflowernatureschool@gmail.com</u>. Additional resources from health organizations can provide valuable information on conjunctivitis.

Together, let's work towards a safe and healthy environment for our little ones.

Lera Lucas

Director, Manager and ECE

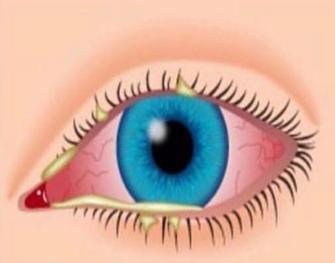
Of Fern Flower – Nature School





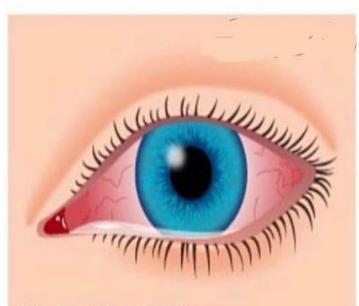
## Normal eye

In a healthy eye, the sclera is essentially white with only a few small blood vessels visible. There is an adequate tear film, with no significant discharge or watering.



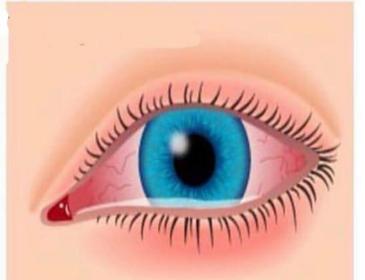
# **Bacterial conjunctivitis**

A red eye with a sticky yellow or yellow/green discharge. Eyelids may be stuck together upon waking. Can affect one or both eyes. Usually spread by direct contact only.



## Viral conjunctivitis

The type of conjunctivitis most commonly associated with the term "pink eye." Appearance: red, itchy, watery eye. Can affect one or both eyes. Highly contagious.



# Allergic conjunctivitis

Very similar in appearance to viral conjunctivitis, but accompanied by nasal congestion, sneezing, eyelid swelling and sensitivity to light. Both eyes are affected. Not contagious.