

# Ringworm Outbreak

We hope this message finds you and your loved ones in good health. We're writing to inform you about a recent outbreak of fungal infections, particularly Ringworm, within our Nature School community. As we prioritize the well-being of our little ones, it's crucial to share essential information and preventive measures to address and contain this skin infection.

## Recognizing Symptoms:

Ringworm symptoms include red, itchy, and ring-shaped rashes on the skin. 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 affected area, and discourage children from scratching.
- **Avoid Skin-to-Skin Contact:** Discourage direct skin contact with others, especially if rashes are present.
- **Isolate Contaminated Items:** If your child is diagnosed with Ringworm, ensure their personal items like towels, clothing, and combs are kept separate to prevent the spread of the infection.
- **Keep Nails Trimmed:** Short nails reduce the risk of scratching and potentially spreading the infection.
- **Prompt Cleaning and Disinfection:** Increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting surfaces, toys, and common areas to minimize the risk of contagion.

## 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 Ringworm, 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.

## Seek Medical Attention:

If you suspect your child has Ringworm, consult with a healthcare professional promptly. Follow their advice and treatment plan to ensure a swift recovery.

## Resources:

For any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to 250-299-2054 or [fernfloweratureschool@gmail.com](mailto:fernfloweratureschool@gmail.com). Additional resources from health organizations can provide valuable information on fungal infections.

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

Stay well,

Lera Lucas

Director, Manager and ECE

Of Fern Flower – Nature School

# SYMPTOMS OF RINGWORM



## Jock Itch (Tinea Cruris)

This is a ringworm infection of the skin around the buttocks, groin and inner thighs. Jock itch is most common in men and adolescent boys and very rare in females. Jock itch occurs more often during warm weather.

Itching, pain and red, ring-like patches in the groin area are common. These patches appear on the inner sides of the skin folds of the thighs. Due to friction, symptoms worsen when running, walking, exercising or even wearing tight clothing.

Jock itch does not involve the scrotum, so if a rash or itching develops here, a different diagnosis should be sought.

## Ringworm of the Body (Tinea Corporis)

This usually appears as itchy patches with a round or ring shape anywhere on the body or the face. Body ringworm occurs in people of all ages, but is more common in children. Like jock itch, this type of ringworm affects people during warmer conditions.

## Nail Infection (Tinea Unguium)

Tinea unguium describes the ringworm infection of the toenail or fingernail. In these cases, the nails appear thickened, deformed and/or yellow. Toenails are affected more than fingernails. Nail infection is most common in adolescents and adults, but not in young children.

## Scalp Ringworm

Scalp ringworm is most common in children between the ages of 2 and 10 years, among whom it's highly contagious. It rarely occurs in adults. Symptoms of scalp ringworm include an itchy scalp, loss of hair in the area and a red and scaly rash. Kerion, or large inflamed sores, may also appear on the scalp and later ooze pus. While not common, an infected person may develop a fever and/or swollen lymph nodes.

## Athlete's Foot (Tinea Pedis)

This is a ringworm infection that most commonly impacts teens and adult males. It is less frequent in children before puberty. Signs include blisters on the feet, a whitening and scaliness of the skin between the toes and intense itch.