



Sunrise Public Health Office
Canora Public Health
PO Box 685
Canora, SK
S0A 0L0
306-563-1259

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please note that there has been a case of head lice in your child's classroom. Head lice are common in schools as children play closely together.

Please check your child's head daily for next three weeks and then every week throughout the school year. Head lice are not dangerous and do not spread disease. Head lice can be hard to find - they are usually greyish white or brown. Please refer to the Head Lice Fact Sheet – "Help Control Head Lice" (attached) and can also be found at www.health.gov.sk.ca. (This also gives good information about what after-care is required).

If you find any LIVE lice, please treat your child and any other person in the home that may also have live lice. This involves using a special shampoo (can be purchased over the counter at any Pharmacy). The shampoo helps to kill the lice – it is important to use exactly as directed. SK Health does not recommend the use of home treatments (ie) tea tree oil/vinegar rinses as there is no proof these treatments work.

For more information about treatment options, you can also contact the **SK Drug Information Hotline @ 1-800-665-3784**, the **Health Line @ 811**, your **local Public Health Office** or any **Pharmacy to speak to a Pharmacist**.

After the first treatment/shampoo, it is very important to check your child's head every day for three weeks and also comb through your child's hair to remove any nits or eggs (these will be small, oval and firmly attached to the hair). It is also very important to follow-up with a second treatment **7-10 days after the first** shampoo. Note: If in 24 to 48 hours after the first shampoo you continue to find live lice, treat right away with a different product and then using this shampoo, repeat the treatment again 7-10 days later.

Your child can return to school after the first treatment is complete.

It is important to **let the School know** if head lice are found in your child's head so they can be aware of the extent of the problem – at times, they may have to contact Public Health. This information will be kept **confidential**.

Public Health does not come to your child's school to do mass screenings as these have been found to not be effective in reducing the number of head lice cases. However if you require assistance with checking your child's head or have any questions, please call the Public Health Nurse for further assistance/information. If any questions/concerns, you may also contact the school @ 306-563-6511.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Kelly Strelloff, Public Health Nurse