

Ringworm, (dermatophytes), is contagious and can spread through direct contact with an infected person or pet. Clothing, bedding and towels can also become contaminated and spread the infection. Scratching the ringworm area with one's hands can transfer the fungal spores to another area of the body. Please encourage your children to demonstrate good hand washing techniques at home as well as at school. Children involved in extra-curricular activities, such as Wrestling, Judo or Gymnastics should be encouraged to shower immediately after the activity for prevention.

If there is a case of Ringworm at school, all desks and classroom surfaces, including door knobs, are cleaned with appropriate disinfectant every night. This is done to prevent the transfer of diseases such as Ringworm.

Please check your children's arms, legs, necks and faces. Ringworm can also be found in the groin area. If your child should have ringworm, he/she will need to have an antifungal ointment applied to the wound. Please speak with the Pharmacist at your local pharmacy to determine which is the best product available. School policy states that the area is to be covered with a bandage. Your student will not be excluded from school if the ringworm is in an area that can be covered by medication and with a bandage. Be sure to follow the directions on the medication, applying it for the recommended period of time after the ringworm is no longer visible (usually two weeks). This will prevent re-occurrence. It is recommended to see your family physician if Ringworm continues after one course of over the counter anti-fungal.

For more information you may contact the Center for Disease Control (CDC) at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/fungal/diseases/ringworm/index.html>

You may also contact me or your building Nurse, Nikki, with any further questions.