



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When can my child go back to school?

It is determined by the policy of the School Board for your child's school. Call your child's school to find out.



Who should I tell when I find head lice? Why should I tell anyone?

- Call your child's school or daycare if you are the one who discovered it.
- Tell anyone who may have had contact with your child in the few days before it was discovered e.g. children at a sleepover, after-school activities.
- Telling others will help to identify, treat and prevent further spread of head lice.



How can I prevent this from happening again?

Although you can't prevent it altogether, there are some things you can do:

- Check your child's hair every week, so if they get it, you will see it quickly before there are too many nits.
- Teach your child not to share personal items that are used on their head e.g. comb, hat, headband, barrettes.
- Teach your child to avoid head-to-head contact with others.



WHAT IF THE TREATMENT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE WORKING?

Here are a few reasons why the treatment may not have worked:

- It wasn't a head lice infestation.
- The directions for the treatment were not followed carefully. You must apply a second treatment at the right time for the product.
- The product was put on hair that had been washed with conditioning shampoo or rinsed with hair conditioner. It reduces the effectiveness.
- All of the nits were not removed and some of them lived and hatched.
- It's a re-infestation – your child got head lice right away again.
- The head lice may be resistant to the product you used. Ask your health care provider or the pharmacist to suggest another product.



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Call your local health unit

- Southwestern Public Health - St. Thomas 519-631-9900 Ext. 1400
- Southwestern Public Health - Woodstock 519-421-9901 Ext. 3473

Websites:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/>
- http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/head_lice

