**LETTER TO PARENTS AND STAFF**

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|  **Concerning letters to parents and staff:*** No letters should be sent if the diagnosis has not been confirmed by a doctor.
* No letters should be sent without prior consent of the CLSC nurse.
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Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Daycare or school: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Subject:** ***Tinea capitis* (ringworm)**

Dear parents,

Dear staff members,

One or more cases of *Tinea capitis* (commonly called *ringworm) have been diagnosed* at your daycare or school. The attached sheet provides information about this disease.

Anyone with the symptoms of this disease should see a doctor.

Bring this letter to your medical consultation as it can help the doctor decide on a course of action. Please inform the daycare or school if the diagnosis of tinea capitis is confirmed.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Please print)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Encl: Information sheet

***Tinea capitis* (ringworm)**

**Information and advice**

**Definition**

*Tinea capitis (ringworm)* is a fungus infection of the scalp.

**Symptoms**

The symptoms of *Tinea capitis* include hair loss, split hairs, and bare patches on the scalp. Occasionally, there may also be boils on the infected area and rarely, fever and swollen glands.

**Transmission**

The disease is transmitted by direct contact with skin lesions, scaling, and hairs of an infected person or hair or fur from an infected pet, especially from dogs and cats.

**Prevention and treatment**

Infected persons are treated with medication for several weeks.

They can continue to attend daycare or school.

Examination of family pets, especially dogs and cats,) by a veterinarian is recommended and treatment prescribed if necessary.

During the treatment period:

* All objects (such as combs, hairbrushes, dolls, hats, bed linen, towels, etc.) that have been in contact with infected hair must be cleaned and disinfected.

Make sure that family members do not share personal items such as combs, hairbrushes, hats, bed linen, towels, and such.