

Oxfordshire Orthoptic Services
Oxford Eye Hospital
LG1, West Wing
John Radcliffe Hospital
Headley Way
OX3 9DU

Tel no: 01865 234160

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Re. School Vision Screening

Your child is being offered a routine screening eye test at school on.....

The eye test will be carried out by an Orthoptist who is employed by the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, is a member of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) and has been checked by the Criminal Records Bureau.

The eye test involves an assessment of vision, eye position and movement. It does not involve the use of eye drops. A report of the outcome of this test will be sent home with your child. You do not need to be present for this test.

Should your child **NOT** pass the test then we would request from the school your address, telephone number and GP details to make the referral and enable us to contact you.

Please ONLY sign the attached slip and return this to your child's class teacher IF:-

- **You do NOT want your child's vision tested**
- **Your child is already seen by an Orthoptist, or is attending a local Optometrist (optician) (Screening not necessary)**

If you have any questions please telephone the Orthoptic Department as above.

Name of Child:

Date of Birth:

☐ **I DO NOT wish my child to have an eye test**

☐ **My child is already seeing an orthoptist or optometrist / optician**

Signed: **Date:**

Parent / Guardian's Name (print):

School Vision Screening

School vision screening is an assessment of your child's vision and eye co-ordination undertaken during their first year at school between the ages of 4 and 5 years.

The test will take place at your child's school during school time. If your child is absent on the day of the vision screening we advise that you take them to a local optometrist (optician). If you have any specific concerns you wish to discuss please contact the Orthoptic Department.

What Happens At The Vision Screening Appointment?

The Orthoptist will test:

- Vision in each eye.
- If there is any misalignment of the eyes.
- Binocular vision – the use of both eyes together.
- Movement of the eyes.

Orthoptists are highly experienced in working with children and all tests are played as games and do not hurt or involve any touching of the eyes.

What Happens After The Vision Screening Appointment?

There are four possible outcomes once your child has been screened:

1. Your child **passes the tests**. They will not need to see the orthoptist again. Routine assessments by a local optometrist are advisable.
2. A **referral to your local optometrist** (optician). You will receive a letter advising that you take your child to your local optometrist if we find mildly reduced vision.
3. A **referral to the Oxford Eye Hospital** or your local community Orthoptic clinic if an eye problem is found. A letter will be sent home with your child explaining the findings and the reason why your child is being referred. Where possible we may telephone you to discuss the referral. Your child's GP will also be informed and **an appointment will be sent to you**.
4. If your child **was unable to complete the test** you will either receive a letter advising you to take your child to your local optometrist or alternatively a letter informing you of a referral to the orthoptic department at the Oxford Eye Hospital or your local community orthoptic clinic, where alternative tests can be carried out.

If you have any queries about vision screening please contact the Orthoptic department on 01865 234160 (08.30 – 13.00). school.visionsscreening@ouh.nhs.uk

If you require this document in another language, large print, braille or audio version, please call 01865 221473 stating your requirements.

When we receive your call we may transfer you to an interpreter. This can take sometime, so please be patient.