

School Vision & Hearing Screening Notification

The purpose of vision and hearing screening is to aid in the detection of school-age children who have or are at risk for developing vision/hearing disorders. These screenings are required by the Ohio Department of Health on an annual basis and will be administered during the school year to the following students from September - April.

- All new students (with no previously documented screenings)
- All students in grades Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11

Why is it important to have your child's vision and hearing screened at school?

- To identify if your child has vision problems or might be at risk for vision problems.
- Hearing is important for speech, language development, reading, and learning.
- A hearing screening can detect if your child needs further hearing testing.
- Even if your child has passed a hearing screening previously, their hearing can change.
- Hearing problems can be related to medical problems.

What tests are included in my child's vision screen?

- Observation (Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11)
- Monocular distance acuity (Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11)
- Stereopsis test (Pre-K, K, 1)
- Color deficiency test (males only, in Kindergarten and/or First grade, if not done in Kindergarten)

What tests are included in my child's hearing screen?

- Audiometry: Screening of hearing acuity (Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, 9, 11)

How will I find out the results of my child's vision and screening results?

- If your child passes the vision and hearing screening, you may not be contacted by the school nurse.
- If your child fails the screening, you will be informed of the test results and provided with referral paperwork.

What do I need to do if my child fails the vision or hearing screening?

- Vision and hearing screening provides a snapshot of how your child performs on the day the test was administered and is not a substitute for a complete eye exam by an optometrist/ophthalmologist or audiologist/ENT.
- Follow up should be arranged with an eye specialist (optometrist/ophthalmologist) or a hearing specialist (audiologist/ENT).
- Provide the specialist with the referral paperwork and return it to the school once it has been completed.

Opt-Out

If you request that your child be exempt from the state mandated vision and hearing screening a waiver will need to be signed each school year. Please contact the school nurse for a waiver.