

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.