



POLICY: Health Screening (vision and hearing)

It is the policy of Thornton Academy that Vision and Hearing screening occurs annually in accordance with the Maine Department of Education recommendations. Screening consists of identifying any possible visual or hearing issues that a student may have that will allow for early intervention and or treatment to occur.

A. Vision Screening

1. Distance vision acuity screening will occur for students in grades seven (7) and nine (9).
2. For those students with glasses, screening should occur with student wearing glasses.
3. Students will be considered to fail the screening if they are unable to read the majority of optotypes at line 20/30 or if they have a two line difference between the left and right eyes.
4. Students who fail the vision screening will have a letter sent home to their parent/guardian and be provided with a referral form.
5. Vision screening of students outside the grade level required for screening should occur upon referral from teachers or with presentation of signs or symptoms of a problem.

B. Hearing Screening

1. Hearing screening is conducted for students in grade 7.
2. Students will be screened in both ears at 25dB with a sweep check at 1000 Hz, 2000 Hz, and 4000 Hz. It is recommended that students also be Screened at 6000 or 8000 Hz.
3. A student will be considered to fail when the student is unable to hear all frequencies in both ears.
4. Students who fail the hearing screening at 1000 Hz, 2000 HZ, or 4000 Hz will be referred to their parents and provided with a referral form to bring to their health care provider.

5. Students who fail the hearing screening at 6000 or 8000 Hz will be referred to their parents and provided information on how to avoid further high frequency hearing loss. Parents will be encouraged to inform the student's health care provider of the high frequency hearing loss.
 6. It is recommended that a hearing rescreen occur in 2–4 weeks for students who fail.
 7. Hearing screening of students outside the grade level required for screening should occur upon referral from teachers or with presentation of signs or symptoms of a problem.
- C. **Reporting:** An annual report will be made to the Maine Department of Education on the results of vision and hearing screening to include the number of students screened by type of health screening, the number of student referred, and the number of referrals returned by disposition.