

VISION SCREENING

Vision screening and eye examination are essential for detecting visual impairment. Conditions that lead to visual abnormalities may lead to inadequate school performance and prevent students from obtaining maximum benefits from their educational experience.

Because all children are required to have a physical examination when they first enter school, it was determined that this requirement would provide adequate screening for kindergarten students if vision screening was included in the physical exam. Therefore, the only health screening required for pupils will be for sight and hearing defects in grades 3, 7, and 10 [check records for religious exemption] and those students in kindergarten who did not have vision screening as part of their physical examination. Arrange screening to be conducted early in the school year. Grade level vision screenings as described above must be *scheduled* within 60 administrative days of the school year, but can be conducted at any time prior to the due date of the screening summary report.

All children, third grade and above, should have a vision screening within 60 administrative working days of initial enrollment to determine if further evaluation is needed, unless prior testing is documented as part of the school Entrance Health form, Part II.

Parents of all students who do not perform satisfactorily on a vision screening and subsequent re-test should be notified by way of a letter, recommending further evaluation by an eye care professional. It should be understood that vision screening is designed only to identify students who may need further attention, it is not intended for diagnostic purposes nor should a diagnosis be made.

Please note that vision screening prior to a Child Study follows a different course.

For Equipment, Procedure, and Documentation – see [Virginia School Health Guidelines](#), pgs. 180-185.

Ref: Virginia School Health Guidelines, 2021 pgs. 180-185.
Code of Virginia, Section. 22.1-273.
Superintendents Memo. No. 159, August 19, 1987.