

WHAT TO EXPECT: VISION SCREENING AND MOBILE VISION CLINIC

A hand-held autorefractor scans your child's pupils in 30-45 seconds. This non-invasive device allows for quick and efficient screening, identifying if your child's vision is normal or requires further examination. If necessary, a licensed Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) will perform a comprehensive eye exam. Please complete the attached paperwork for your child's screening and potential optometrist visit. Below is what you can expect during the screening and possible eye doctor's appointment.

PASS: a "pass" result from a vision screening indicates your child's vision is within the acceptable range for their age. No further action is needed, and your child will return back to class.

REFER: A "refer" result from a vision screening indicates vision outside the acceptable range for your child's age, possibly due to nearsightedness, farsightedness or other correctable issues. Your child should see an optometrist for a comprehensive eye exam, which we will provide on-site with proper consent.

PATIENT HISTORY: Please complete the patient history form, detailing any current eye or vision problems your child has, their overall health, and any eye or health conditions experienced by your child's family members.

VISUAL ACUITY: Visual acuity measurements evaluate how clearly your child sees in each eye. Reading charts are often used to measure visual acuity. As part of the testing, your child will read letters or identify items on charts at a distance and up close.

PRELIMINARY TESTS: The optometrist may at first want to look at specific aspects of your child's visual function and eye health. Preliminary tests can include evaluations of depth perception, color vision, eye muscle movements, peripheral or side vision, and the way the eyes react to light.

REFRACTION: Refraction determines the lens power needed to correct refractive errors (nearsightedness, farsightedness, or astigmatism). If necessary, a written prescription will be provided, and GLLF will produce the glasses for your child.

EYE HEALTH EVALUATION: The optometrist may check eye health through dilation. This involves drops in each eye to enlarge the pupil and examine the optic nerve and retina. Dilation lasts 2-3 hours and can make reading difficult. These tests help confirm or rule out issues, clarify findings, or provide a more in-depth assessment. Not all students will need dilation.

WHY ARE EYE EXAMS IMPORTANT?

Eye examinations are an important part of health maintenance for everyone. Eye exams for children also are particularly important to ensure normal vision development and confirm that children have the visual acuity and vision skills required for schoolwork and other activities. Children do not always know what “normal” vision is, so they are unlikely to complain of vision problems. However, because vision is so intricately linked to the learning process, undetected learning-related vision problems can lead to trouble with schoolwork.

GEORGIA LIONS LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION INC. IS HERE TO HELP

The mission of Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation is to provide vision services through education, detection, prevention, and treatment. Through collaborative partnerships, we enable greater independence and increased quality of life for Georgians in financial need.

NOTE: If your child has a current eyeglasses prescription that is less than 1 year old, we can assist with providing glasses for your child. Please include a copy of the prescription with the consent forms.

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation is committed to ensuring strict confidentiality of your child’s information. We will maintain records of the forms you give us as well as our exam information in a HIPAA compliant database. Our records are maintained in this secure database for a minimum of ten years. Signing the Visions Screening / Clinic Parental Consent Form affirms understanding of our confidentiality policy.

IMPORTANT! READ CAREFULLY I HOW TO OPT-OUT OF VISION SCREENING

Some schools and/or districts may choose to observe an opt-out policy for screenings. If your child’s school is **observing an opt-out policy, all students in the school will be screened**. Scholars whose screening indicates “refer” will receive a comprehensive eye examination. **If you do not wish to have your child’s vision screened, you MUST SELECT “NO” to opt-out. This is the first question on the next page.** If you select NO (opt-out), please leave the rest of the form blank except for your signature at the bottom of the page.

For schools and/or districts that are **observing an opt-in policy, no student will be screened unless they have a consent form indicating “YES” to the first question** by their parent/guardian.

All forms must be signed at the bottom by a parent or guardian regardless of the selection.

Depending on the student, some may need to have their eyes dilated during examinations. This allows the optometrist to obtain the optimal prescription measurement. The dilation typically only affects the near vision and will wear off within a few hours.