

Vision screening

The East Sussex School Health Service offers vision screening to all Reception class children.

It is important for eye problems to be identified as early as possible because they can have a significant impact on a child's development and education. Eye problems are often much easier to treat if detected while a child's vision is still developing (usually up to about seven or eight-years-old).

Screening will take place at your child's school. It will be carried out by trained healthcare staff in a private area in small groups of two or three children. If your child wears glasses, please make sure they have them in school on the day of the test. We will place a patch over each lens in turn to complete the test.

In order to accurately test the vision of each eye separately, vision screening glasses will be worn by your child and these will be cleaned after use by each child.

Your child will be given a simple explanation of the purpose of the test. This will include an opportunity to see the glasses.

The results of the screening will be available to view on the SchoolScreener parent portal. If the screening shows that your child's vision may need further assessment, they will be referred to ophthalmology (vision) departments at East Sussex Healthcare for a more detailed test. For you to receive an appointment by letter or phone, we will share your contact details with East Sussex Healthcare.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/653434/vision_screening_parent_leaflet.pdf

Withdrawing your child from the Vision Screening Programme

If you are happy for your child to be screened, please register on the SchoolScreener parent portal as soon as possible, so you will receive their results but you do not need to do anything. We are a paper light service and therefore results will not be posted to your home address. If you are unable to access the portal for any reason please contact us directly on the details at the bottom of this letter.

If you do not want your child's vision to be checked, register on the SchoolScreener parent portal as soon as possible and tick the opt out, or by using the contact details at the bottom of this email. Children will not be made to take part on the day if they do not want to.

The School Health Service can be contacted Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm.

Chair John Goulston Chief Executive Mairead McCormick

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Phone: 0300 123 4062

Email: kentcft.esschoolhealthservice@nhs.net

Web: www.kentcht.nhs.uk

Online referral form: www.eastsussexchildren.nhs.uk

Details about the information we collect from you, what we do with it and how it may be shared can be found in the leaflet. What happens to personal information held about you? Which you can find online: www.kentcht.nhs.uk/personalinfo or you can ask your healthcare professional.