



**The Dudley Group**  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Orthoptic Department**  
Russells Hall Hospital  
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**Tel: 01384 456111 ext. 3636**

**ORTHOPTIC VISION SCREENING SERVICE**

Dear Parent/Guardian

We would like to invite your child to the Vision Screening test for children aged 4-5 years which will be held at school. Please read the information overleaf explaining the reason for vision screening, what it will consist of and what happens if your child is found to have reduced vision. Please take time to read this information.

If you would like your child to have the vision screening test you do not need to respond.

If you **DO NOT** want your child to have the test please complete the slip below to withdraw from screening and **return** this to school.

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**Orthoptic Vision Screening Test**

Complete and return this form only if you **DO NOT** want your child to have this test

Name..... Date of Birth.....

Address.....

School.....

I DO NOT wish my child to have the vision screening test ☐

My child is already receiving treatment for an eye condition ☐

I will take my child to Optometrist for an eye check ☐

Signed  
(Parent/Guardian).....Date.....

**Please return this slip to the school as soon as possible if you do not want your child to have the test.**

*Continued overleaf*

## **Information for Parents on vision screening for children aged 4-5 years.**

We offer vision screening to children age 4-5 to identify those with reduced vision in one or both eyes. The aim is to detect problems early so that your child can get effective treatment. Children identified by screening will be referred for a more detailed examination. This could be with an Orthoptist and Optometrist or with an Ophthalmologist depending on the results of the screening test. The detailed examination will identify the cause of the reduced vision and treatment will be recommended. This will often include the use of glasses.

### **Screening test**

Your child's vision will be assessed using a letter matching test. The test is designed to be fun and your child does NOT need to know their letters to perform the test. It is important to perform the test with each eye separately. To ensure the child cannot "peep" with the other eye, a pair of glasses with one eye blanked out is used. Most children enjoy playing this game and there are no risks associated with the test.

You can choose whether you want your child to have the test. We recommend vision screening to identify and treat problems early.

Vision develops from birth to age 7-8 years of age. Children rarely complain of having poor vision and it can easily go unnoticed. The vision test is important as your child will not have another eye check at school. If detected early, in most cases, reduced vision can be successfully treated. However, if left untreated, it may not be possible to improve a child's vision. This may have an impact on their progress at school, ability to drive or career choices.

### **Consent**

Vision screening will take place in school, unless your child is absent. Absentees and those whose test is unreliable will be offered an appointment at a later date at Russells Hall Hospital. Please only inform us if you do **NOT** wish your child to have the vision screen test or if your child is already under the follow-up care of a hospital eye service or an Optometrist.

If you do not return this letter we will assume you want your child to have the test and are happy for the school to share your child's Date of Birth and address.

### **Possible results**

Vision screening will identify if your child has the required level of vision and you will receive a pass letter. If your child does **NOT** pass at the required level you will be sent a letter confirming the results and where your child will be referred for a more detailed examination.

*Please be aware **No** test is perfect and vision does change as you get older. All children are eligible for a free eye test with an Optometrist should you have concerns about your child's vision in the future.*