



FAX about...



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Vision Screening of Senior Kindergarten Children

- **2018 Ontario Public Health Standards** require public health units to implement a universal vision screening program for senior kindergarten (SK) children
- Beginning in **January 2019** and every subsequent school year, vision screening will be conducted at all **publicly-funded** schools for SK students
- School vision screening does **not replace** a comprehensive eye exam by an optometrist
- Families will be provided with a link to the College of Optometrists of Ontario website to find a **local** optometrist and with information about **free or low-cost glasses** for families **in need**
- Non-invasive tools to complete the vision screening process include the **HOTV visual acuity test, Randot preschool stereotest** and **autorefractor test**
- A child passes screening only if he or she passes **all three tests**
- Regardless of the test results all children will be **referred** to their local optometrist for an **OHIP-covered** comprehensive eye examination
- Communication to parents will include promoting the **OHIP-covered** annual comprehensive eye examination to all children up to age **19 years**
- It is possible that local optometrists may experience a **higher volume of requests** from clients for comprehensive eye examinations as the school vision screening service is implemented
- If your office has programming in place to support families with the **cost of eyeglasses** or if you are **interested in partnering** with us on this initiative, please contact us at healthyschools@durham.ca

Health care provider resources now available to order online durham.ca/HCP.

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711, 1-800-841-2729

January 2, 2019

If you prefer to receive this information in an electronic format please submit your request to healthresources@durham.ca

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.