



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
- Up to **1 in 4** Ontario children experience **learning difficulties** related to **vision** that can affect their learning and development
- 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 the **OHIP-covered** comprehensive eye examination
- It is recommended all children up to the age of **19 years** have a free OHIP-covered comprehensive eye examination by their local optometrist **each year**

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

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

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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.