Hearing and Vision Screening

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) is given the authority by the Ohio Revised Code (Section 3313.69) to set the hearing, and vision screening requirements for school children. ODH sets the requirements for the grades that are routinely screened each year by November 1st, what equipment is acceptable to use, what specific hearing and vision tests are needed to perform the screenings and the referral criteria.

Hearing and Vision Screening is done for students in preschool, kindergarten, first, third, fifth, seventh, and ninth and eleventh grades.

A written notice will be mailed to the parent or legal guardian regarding any problem detected during the health screening. The suspected problem will be identified and a referral/recommendation will be made for a follow- up professional exam.

Please Note: School screenings are not a substitute for regular medical and vision care.

If you receive a referral from the school nurse indicating that your child needs further health care and your child does not have medical coverage please notify the school. Programs are available that may assist with your child's health care needs. Please return completed screening referrals to the school so that your child's health records can be updated.

In addition, children will be screened annually or upon occurrence if one of the below apply:

- Students new to a school (and not tested within the past 12 months).
- Students referred by a teacher or other school personnel.
- Students who were referred within the past year with no documented follow-up, regardless of grade.
- Students absent during the previous hearing screening.
- Students at risk for noise exposure (e.g., band, vocational education, industrial education, automotive mechanics).
- Students who request a hearing screening.
- Students whose parent/caregiver request a hearing screening.

Additional Information may be found at the Ohio Department of Health website: https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/children-s-hearing-vision-program/hearing-vision-program