



Lions Screen Kids Sight

Lions School Vision Screening for Yavapai County

This is to introduce you to the Lions School Vision Screening Program for Yavapai County - **Lions Screen Kids Sight**. The Lions of Yavapai are offering free vision screenings for students primarily in pre-K through second grade, plus fourth grade, using the Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener. This program supports early literacy development by identifying potential vision impediments. This grade range allows us to comply with the release of the ADHS vision screening rules in 2024.

The following organizations have published peer-reviewed papers in support of vision screening of children: National Institutes of Health, American Academy of Optometry, American Academy of Ophthalmology, and American Academy of Pediatrics.

This sophisticated screening instrument can, in seconds, screen children for these vision issues:

Astigmatism - irregularly shaped corneas or lenses Myopia - nearsightedness
Hyperopia - farsightedness Strabismus - misalignment of the eyes
Anisometropia - unequal refractive power Anisocoria - pupil size anomalies
Amblyopia risk factors - reduced vision in one eye

Screenings are done at a distance of one meter with a camera-type instrument, in low light, completed in seconds, with immediate results. No drops, special precautions, or physical contact with the child are required. The children can be back to their normal schedule in minutes. The Lions provide to the school the Pass or Refer results of each child's screening, without further detail. For students who pass, no further action is needed. Action on students Referred is discussed below.

In order for the Lions to perform vision screening, we require Memorandum of Understanding between the school and the Lions, which will list the grades the Lions plan to screen at that school. Further:

For district and charter schools, the school or district will ensure it has identified each student for whom a parent or guardian has submitted to the school a statement of objection for any reason to screening their student, prior to the screening. The school will ensure no student is presented to the Lions for screening for whom such objection was submitted.

For pre-schools and private schools, the school or facility will ensure a currently effective completed consent form is on file with the student identified by name and signed by the student's parent or guardian for every student to be screened, prior to the screening. The facility will ensure no student is presented to the Lions for screening for whom such consent is not on file.

The Lions can provide a sample vision screening consent form.

The "Gold Standard" for eye care is a comprehensive eye examination with a dilated pupil by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. Whereas, vision screening is a public health process designed to identify those children with risk factors for eye disorders. It is not a substitute for, nor does it have the same accuracy as, a comprehensive eye examination. It is an attempt to get children in need of professional eye care into the eye care system.

For those students that are Referred, the school should communicate to parent or guardian in every case that the screening indicates their child should be further examined by an eye care professional to investigate potential eye disorders. The Lions can provide a sample referral notification letter. The school should follow up in 6-8 weeks on such referrals for professional diagnosis.

If the child hadn't seen an eye doctor, Lions Clubs may be able to provide assistance for eye examination and glasses to families with financial challenges.

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