



Hamilton

City of Hamilton  
Public Health Services – Healthy Families  
Healthy and Safe Communities  
Vision Screening Program  
110 King Street West, 3rd Floor  
Hamilton, ON L8P 4S6  
Phone: 905.546.2424 Ext. 5369 Fax: 905.546.3007

## Child Vision Screening

Dear Parent/Guardian:

McMaster Paediatric Eye Research Group, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, will be at your child's school to carry out the *Child Visual Health and Vision Screening Protocol, 2018* as mandated by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). The screening will include all students in **Kindergarten year two (Senior Kindergarten)**. The visual health information collected will be used to identify children who may have risk factors for vision disorders. This information is collected as required by the Child Visual Health and Vision Screening Protocol, 2018, under the authority of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act, RSO 1990*.

To conduct the vision screening, a trained screener will use three separate vision tests, as required by the MOHLTC. These tests are non-invasive. They include:

- Vision chart (child identifies a letter on flip chart),
- 3D vision test (child identifies which picture is further forward in book), and
- Handheld device that automatically checks for near or far-sightedness.

### **We will notify you if there may be issues with your child's vision.**

This vision screening does not replace a comprehensive eye exam, and your child should continue to have annual eye exams completed by an optometrist. McMaster Paediatric Eye Research Group meets the standards of infection control set out by Public Health Ontario, and the MOHLTC.

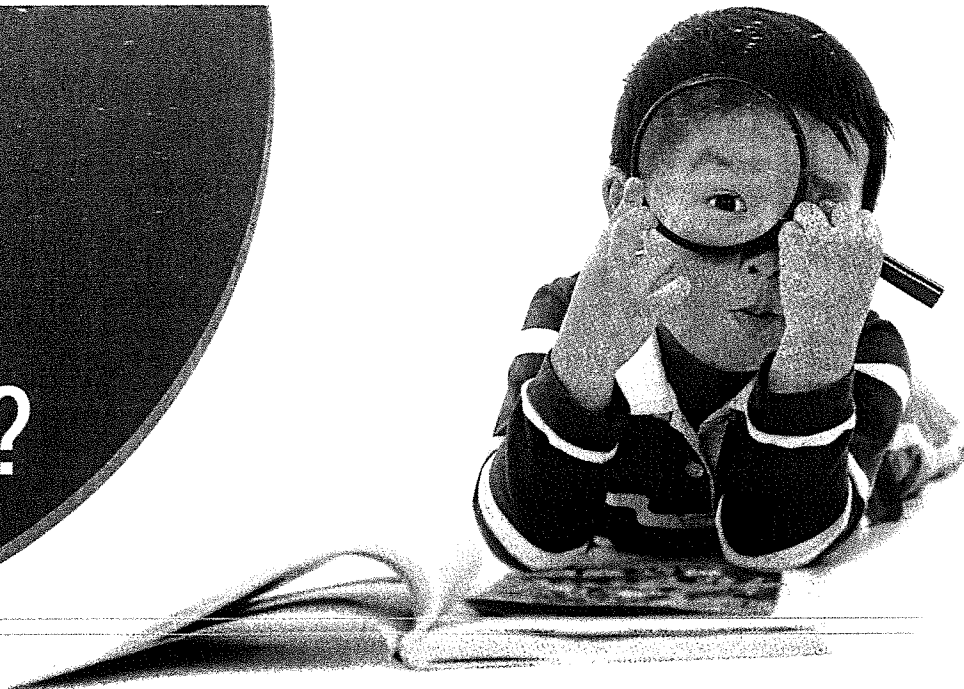
If you have any concerns or wish to withdraw your child from the vision screening, please send a note to the school with the child's name and grade within the next 5 business days.

If you have questions about the vision screening program, please contact Hamilton Public Health Services at 905-546-2424 ext. 5369.

Yours Sincerely,

Vision Screening Program Supervisor  
City of Hamilton, Public Health Services

# How well can your child see?



Good eyesight is important for children to be able to play and learn. Your child may not tell you they have problems seeing. You may not notice your child is having problems with their eyes.

## Free Eye Exams

A full eye exam by an optometrist (eye doctor) is the best way to make sure your child can see well and that their eyes are healthy.

An eye exam is free with an Ontario health card for children up to age 19.

## The Canadian Association of Optometrists recommends:

### Infants & Toddlers (birth to 24 months)



**First eye exam**  
between 6 and  
9 months of age

### Preschool Children (2-5 years)



**At least one eye  
exam between 2  
and 5 years of age**

### School Age Children (6-19 years)




**Eye exam every  
year from 6 to 19  
years of age**




## How to Find an Optometrist


**College of Optometrists of Ontario**

 [www.collegeoptom.on.ca](http://www.collegeoptom.on.ca)

 1-888-825-2554

**Ontario Association of Optometrists**

 [www.findaneyedoctor.ca](http://www.findaneyedoctor.ca)

 1-800-540-3837



## Free and Low-Cost Glasses for Children in Hamilton

### Families who need assistance

- One Sight Program
- Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program
- Special Supports Program

### First Nations and Inuit

- Non-insured Health Benefits Program

### Junior Kindergarten Children


- Eye See Eye Learn

### Protected Persons including refugees

- Interim Federal Health Program

### For more information:

 [www.hamilton.ca/visualhealth](http://www.hamilton.ca/visualhealth)

 905-546-2424 x5369

