

SCHOOL VISION AND HEARING SCREENING NOTIFICATION

POWHATAN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The purpose of vision and hearing screening is to aid in the detection of school age children who have or are at risk for developing vision/hearing disorders. These screenings are mandated by the Virginia Department of Education on an annual basis and will be administered during the 2020-2021 to the following students:

- All new students
- All students in grades K, 3, 7, 10

Why is it important to have your child's vision and hearing screened at school?

- To identify if your child has vision problems or might be at risk for vision problems
- Hearing is important for speech, language development, reading and learning
- A hearing screening can detect if your child needs further hearing testing
- Even if your child has passed a hearing screening previously, their hearing can change
- Hearing problems can be related to medical problems

What test method/information is included in my child vision screening?

State of the art, non-invasive vision screening equipment is used to screen student vision. When the equipment is not available the Snellen eye chart will be used.

What tests are included in my child's hearing screening?

- Pure Tone Audiometry: screening of hearing acuity

How will I find out the results of my child's screening results?

- If your child passes the vision and hearing screening, you will not be contacted
- If your child fails the hearing screening-the school nurse will have the speech pathologist rescreen the student-if your child passes a rescreen-you will not be notified. If your child fails a rescreen-you will be notified.
- If your child fails the vision screening, a printout of results and cover letter will be mailed to the parent/guardian.

What do I need to do if my child fails the vision or hearing screening?

- Vision and Hearing screening provides a snapshot of how your child performs on the day the screening was administered and does not substitute for a complete eye exam by an optometrist/ophthalmologist or audiologist/ENT.
- Follow-up should be arranged with an eye specialist(optometrist or ophthalmologist) or a hearing specialist (audiologist or ENT)
- Provide the specialist with a copy of the screening results
- If possible please inform the school nurse of follow-up exam results

***If your child should need help with resources for area specialists or financial assistance programs for an eye exam, please contact your school nurse.**

IF YOUR VIRTUAL/C-TRACK CHILD WANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCREENINGS, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE SCHOOL NURSE TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT.

IF YOUR VIRTUAL/C-TRACK CHILD SHOULD CHOOSE TO OPT-OUT OF THE SCREENINGS FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR, PLEASE PROVIDE A WRITTEN REQUEST BY EMAIL OR IN WRITING TO THE SCHOOL NURSE ON THE FORM BELOW:

My child, _____, is a virtual/C-track student in Powhatan County Public Schools. I choose to have my child opt-out of the Hearing and Vision screenings for the 2020/2021 school year.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date