Vision Screening: Teacher information and facts sheet

Please read this information and fact sheet to the children to help them understand why they are having vision screening and reassure them that wearing glasses or a patch is a normal way to help eyes see better.

What is vision screening?

Vision screening is a quick check to see how well you can see. It helps to find out if one or both of your eyes might need a little extra help to see well. The screener will explain everything.

Who does the screening?

The vision screening programme is led by an orthoptist, someone who is an expert in how your eyes are developing. You might play the special eye games with an orthoptist or someone they have trained. You may take part in a short game naming or matching letters to check how well each eye can see. The test only takes a few minutes, is non-invasive and most children really enjoy it.

Why do my eyes get checked now?

Your eyes are still growing and learning to work together. Finding eye problems early makes it easier to help them, so you can see clearly, learn well and enjoy school.

Quick facts to share with the children:

- Around 10 out of 100 children (that's 2 or 3 people in your class) might need a bit of extra help to see well but not know it.
- For some children with one eye that struggles to see well they might need an eye patch or blurring eye drops to help it get better.
- If we find these problems early, they are much easier to help.
- Even if your eyes are good enough to pass school screening, all children should have regular, free NHS eye tests at their local optician to keep their eyes healthy.

Key Message

Having your eyes checked helps you see your best for reading, playing and learning. Glasses, a patch or eye drops might help your eyes see better.