

Medway School Nursing Team  
Snapdragons Centre  
Cliffe Road  
Strood  
Kent  
ME2 3FF

0300 123 3444

Dear Parent/Carer

### **RE: Hearing and Vision School Entry Screening**

During reception year, your child will be seen by the school nursing team to check their hearing and vision. These screening checks are important as they help identify any problems that may impact on their learning and development.

The screening checks are completed during the school day and only take a few minutes. They are carried out by trained health care professionals from the school nursing team.

- Children will not be made to take part on the day if they do not want to.
- If your child is already under hospital care for vision and/or hearing they will not need to be seen by the screening team at school
- Individual results are not shared with your child or their school. It is your choice if you share the information

#### Hearing Screening

The test involves a series of sounds played through headphones at different volumes and frequencies. Your child is asked to respond when they hear the different sounds.

If your child's hearing falls below expected levels we will contact you by telephone to inform you of their result. We will attempt to contact twice before sending a letter. A failed hearing test is not uncommon and can be due to a recent cold or lapse in concentration. We therefore repeat the test approximately 12 weeks later.

We will refer your child to the audiology department for a more detailed test if they do not meet expected levels when retested.

### Vision Screening

The vision screening involves each eye being checked separately by using glasses that cover each of your child's eyes. Your child will be asked to look at letters held a distance away. They will then match what they see to a card in front of them, or say the letter out loud.

If expected levels are not met, we will contact you and refer your child to ophthalmology.

### Year R School Health Review

If you have not already done so, please complete the [Year R Health Questionnaire](#). This will alert us if you have any concerns regarding your child's health and also allow us to update their child health record.

### **What if I do not wish my child to have school entry health screening?**

If you **do not** want your child to receive these screening checks, or if your child is already under hospital care for vision and/or hearing, please let us know using the easy online form found here:

[I do not wish my child to have school entry screening](#)

The online form is sent directly to the school nursing team however if you do not have internet access please inform your child's school that you do not wish your child to take part.

If you would like to know more about the Medway School Nursing Team, please visit our website which has useful information on a range of child health issues as well as further information on school health checks.

[School Nursing :: Medway Community Healthcare](#)

Yours faithfully,

**Medway School Nursing Team**

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