

School vision and hearing screening

Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitematā

National Vision and Hearing Screening Programme • Child & Family Service

Te Whatu Ora Waitematā provides free vision and hearing screening for children. This screening is carried out by vision and hearing technicians who visit schools and provide vision and hearing clinics in various community locations.

Vision test

Distance vision – a letter-matching (or letter-identifying) screening test determines whether the child can see what is expected at a distance of four meters. This is not a full diagnostic assessment.

Hearing test

Audiometry – an audiometer is used to measure hearing. The child wears headphones and indicates every time a sound is heard.

Tympanometry – if the child does not seem to hear all the sounds with the audiometer test, tympanometry is used to show whether there may be ‘glue ear’ or some other blockage in the hearing system. A soft rubber cap seals the opening of the ear and a measurement is made of how well the ear drum reacts to sound and changes of ear pressure.

Parents/caregivers will be informed of all results (including any problems identified). If your child does not pass a vision and hearing screening test, you will receive a letter suggesting what to do, including recommended follow up.

Name of child: NHI number:.....

Date of birth: / / Ethnicity: Family doctor (GP):

School: Room:

Child’s address:

Phone number: Email:

I consent to vision and hearing testing for my child at school:

Vision test ☒ **YES** ☐ **NO** Past history:

Hearing test ☒ **YES** ☐ **NO** Past history:

Name of parent/ guardian:

Signature of parent/guardian: Date: / /

The results of the screening will be stored in the Ministry of Education’s ENROL data base. Any information stored on this data base can only be accessed by properly authorised school personnel or vision and hearing technicians. **If your child passed the vision and hearing test at age four (part of the B4 School Check), no further routine testing is needed at school.**