

Dear parent/guardian,

During your child's first year at school, he/she will normally be seen by a member of the school nursing service to carry out some screening tests.

This is part of the School Entry Review and provides an assessment of your child's health needs, promotes health and wellbeing and supports and enables your child to achieve their full potential.

The review consists of:

- Review of your child's immunisation status
- Vision screening
- Measurement of growth (height and weight)

Vision screening to assess your child's vision using a letter-matching test.

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, this screening programme was disrupted. As a result, your child may not have been screened as they left reception and entered year 1. We are therefore recommending that you take your child to an optometrist (opticians) to have their eyes tested.

Why is it important to book a sight test?

Good vision is essential to ensure children have the opportunity to achieve their full visual, educational and social potential. Children may not realise they have a vision problem, which, in turn, may affect their development and education.

It is therefore advised that you book a sight test for your child, when it is convenient, to ensure that any issues can be picked up at the earliest opportunity.

<https://lookafteryoureyes.org/eye-care/childrens-eye-health/guide-to-childs-eyes/>

Where can I book a sight test?

NHS sight tests for children can be accessed from all optometry practices (opticians) in Wales. For more information, visit:

<https://111.wales.nhs.uk/LocalServices/?s=Optician>

<http://www.eyecare.wales.nhs.uk/home>



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe yw enw gweithredu Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Prifysgol Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

Is there a cost?

All NHS sight tests are FREE of charge for children under the age of 16 and those aged 16 to 18 in full-time education.

What if I have concerns about my child's vision?

If you have any concerns about your child's vision, please contact your local optometrist (optician).

What if I have other concerns about my child's health?

If you are concerned about another aspect of your child's health, here is some additional information with sources of support:

What if I have concerns about my child's height or weight?

If you have any concerns about your child's height or weight, please contact your GP. Either this could be concerns about them being overweight or underweight or you have concerns about regular eating habits that could affect their health (eating too much or not eating enough).

If you would like to know more about the Child Measurement Programme, please visit www.wales.nhs.uk and search Child Measurement Programme.

What if I have concerns about my child's health in general?

If you are concerned about any aspect of your child's health, please contact your GP.

For more advice on the School Entry Review or the assessments, contact your School Nursing team on 01639 862801.

Yours faithfully

School Nursing Service

