

Hampton School District Policy	Section:	<u>J</u>
	Code:	JLC-R
	Title:	Screening of Students
	Category:	HSB Added
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SCREENING OF STUDENTS

The State of New Hampshire does not mandate health screenings by school nurses at this time.

The Office of School Health at the NH Department of Education recommends **VISION** screening.

Early vision evaluation is critical in ensuring normal eyesight development. Though ideally this will have been done prior to school age, screening in kindergarten or first grade can still benefit the child with vision problems that may have been missed.

Guidelines: The Office of School Health recommends a complete vision exam for students within the first year of entering school or transferring to a new school. Complete vision exam includes near, distance, color and binocular vision. If the physical exam documentation completed by the physician includes vision screening results, the school nurse does not need to repeat the screening. Periodic re-screening for distance vision only is also recommended.

Vision Screening: A number of assessments may be used based on the student's age and developmental ability to complete a task. Assessments may include, but are not limited to, visual acuity, muscle balance, and color discrimination.

The Office of School Health at the NH Department of Education recommends **HEARING** screening.

As with vision, a vital hearing evaluation should be done before reaching school age. However, children who have not had a hearing evaluation can still benefit from screening in early school years.

Guidelines: The Office of School Health recommends screening all children within the first year of entering school or transferring into school. In addition, consider screening children who may have exposure to loud noises that could damage hearing. For example, entry into middle school and/or high school could represent a good time to screen for, and educate, about potential hearing loss resulting from loud music or job-related noise.

Hearing problems can be identified through pure tone audiometry and impedance screening. An audio logical evaluation may be recorded in lieu of a hearing screening by school personnel. Impedance screening is generally performed only with younger children.

Nursing referrals to health care providers are based on screening results.

Reference: The Office of School Health, NH Department of Education

Adopted:	DATE: April 28, 2003, January 11, 2011, June 9, 2015
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