

SIMPLY

speaking

**WHAT EVERY PARENT, GUARDIAN,
AND TEACHER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT**



A Child's Vision

Vision is learned from experience. While the eye is fully functional at birth, the infant's visual center in the brain has still to learn to make sense of visual information it receives. The comprehension of the visual stimuli rapidly develops within the first 2 years of life, and, continues to do so until the age of 9 years.

As an adult who is in contact with the majority of the time of the young child, you play a very important role in the future success of the the child. Often times, you're the first one to notice vision/learning problems in school. Vision has a direct affect on how well a child learns. Encountering vision problems and having them go untreated can result in serious learning difficulties and behavioral issues.

WHEN IS A VISION EXAM NEEDED?

Unfortunately, parents and educators often incorrectly assume that if a child passes a school screening, then there is no vision problem. Many school vision screenings only test for distance visual acuity. A child who can see 20/20 can still have a vision problem. In reality, the vision skills needed for successful reading and learning are much more complex.

Here are a few clues that may warrant an eye examination by an ophthalmologist (a Doctor of Medicine specializing in the Eye):

Appearance of the Eyes

- Eyes crossed or turning in, out or moving independently of each other
- Reddened, watering eye, encrusted eyelids, frequent styes

Complaints Associated With Using the Eyes

- Headaches, nausea and dizziness
- Burning or itching eyes
- Blurring of vision at any time
- Double vision

Signs that a child may be experiencing vision difficulties:

- Frequent headaches
- Covering or closing one eye especially in bright sunlight
- Tilting the head to one side
- Avoiding reading and other close activities as much as possible.
- Low level of comprehension or efficiency when doing homework
- Often loses place or skips words when reading
- Makes errors when copying from the board
- Holds reading material close to face
- Excessive blinking/ rubbing eyes
- Experiences discomfort, fatigue and a short attention span.
- Watching TV too close – at home
- An eye turning in or out
- Seeing double
- Difficulty remembering what is read



- Omitting, repeating and miscalling words or confusing similar words
- Difficulty remembering, identifying and reproducing basic geometric forms
- Poor eye-hand coordination when copying from chalkboard, throwing or catching a ball
- Difficulty buttoning or unbuttoning clothing or tying shoes
- Displaying evidence of developmental immaturity

Even if children pass vision screening, they should receive a comprehensive optometric examination if:

- They show any of the problems listed here.
- They are not achieving their full potential or they have to use excessive time and effort to do so.

Vision changes can occur without your child or you noticing them. Therefore, your child should receive an eye examination at least once every two years-more frequently if specific problems or risk factors exist, or if recommended by your eye doctor. The earlier a vision problem is detected and treated, the more likely treatment will be successful.

When needed, the doctor can prescribe treatment including eyeglasses, contact lenses or vision therapy to correct any vision problems. For eye alignment disorders eyeglasses or surgery may be recommended depending on the cause.

Consultation Hours: 8:00am - 6:00pm, Monday - Saturday

G/F Belson House, 271 EDSA (near Connecticut St.), Mandaluyong City

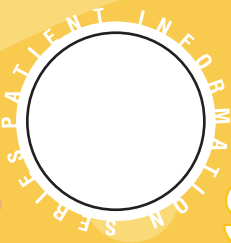
Call for an appointment: Tel: 7217135 / 7216412

For more information about our facilities: <http://www.galileoeyecenter.com>

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Cataract & Glaucoma Center



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