

WESTERN
School Division
Morden, Manitoba

*"Rooted In Caring;
Committed to Learning"*



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

As part of our commitment to provide the best opportunities for students to achieve success, Western School Division is pleased to support the **Eye See...Eye Learn**® program. This program was developed by the Alberta Association of Optometrists with support from the Government of Alberta and Alberta Education and has now been successfully implemented in many Canadian provinces.

Eye See...Eye Learn® is based on research that confirms the importance of vision and eye health on students' success in learning. According to statistics provided by the Canadian Association of Optometrists, four out of every ten school-aged children have a vision problem that may negatively affect learning. Children may not reach their full potential if they can't see the board clearly, focus on a picture, or follow words in a book. As well, early diagnosis can prevent future or more complex vision problems.

Manitoba Health covers the cost of children's eye exams; however, less than twenty percent of children access this service before they begin school. Western School Division recognizes the important link between eye health and learning and recommends comprehensive eye health examinations for all children entering kindergarten.

When your child sees the optometrist, please ask them to complete the enclosed form. Two copies will be returned to you by the optometrist: the yellow copy should be given to your child's teacher; and the pink copy can be kept by you or given to your family doctor.

If you don't currently have a family optometrist, you can find one by going to the MAO website at www.optometrists.mb.ca and selecting *Find an Optometrist*, or by calling the Manitoba Association of Optometrists at 204-943-9811.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carla Wiebe". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Carla Wiebe

Student Services Administrator



Eye See...Eye Learn[®]

an MAO children's vision program

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Starting school is an exciting time for kids. It's also an ideal time to take your child for a thorough eye examination.

Surprisingly, one in five children entering school has a vision disorder. Many of these children accept poor vision and other eye problems because they are unaware that their vision is not the same as that of other children. If left unchecked, serious long-term effects can result.

Since 80% of a child's learning is based on vision, excellent sight and eye health are critical to doing well in school.

Ensure your child isn't hindered in learning, play or how they look at the world. Please make an eye exam a regular part of your child's overall health care.

The Manitoba Association of Optometrists is part of a national vision program *Eye See...Eye Learn[®]*. The Association is working to get the message out to parents that ALL children should have a thorough eye examination by an optometrist before they enter school. Eye exams are covered by Manitoba Health for children under 19 years of age!

To locate an optometrist close to you, go to the MAO website at www.optometrists.mb.ca and select *Find an Optometrist*, or call the Manitoba Association of Optometrists at **204-943-9811**.

Sincerely,

Your Manitoba Optometrists

An important message for parents of children entering the school system:

Vision directly affects how a child learns.

80% of a child's learning is based on vision.

One in five children entering school has a vision disorder.

Reading, learning and behavior problems can be related to undetected vision problems.

Why are kids not getting an eye exam?

Parents may think their children's vision is OK if they don't complain, or if they've successfully completed a vision screening. However, screenings are limited – they do not assess near vision ability, eye health, and how well the eyes work together as a team.

Our school and healthcare systems don't insist children have an eye exam, but they should. In some jurisdictions, eye exams before school entry are mandatory.

Parents might assume that if they have good eyes, their children must too. It doesn't always work that way. Why not book an eye exam and be sure?

Why not wait until my child is a little older?

The wiring between the eyes and the brain develops in the first 5 years of life. If a child has an eye problem, it will respond best if treated when young. Some eye problems can't be corrected as well if you wait until age 8 or 10. Eye exams are child friendly – your child does not need to know his/her alphabet in order to have an accurate exam. Most three year old children can complete a thorough eye exam easily! **Book an appointment before your child starts school.**

To find an optometrist near you, go to www.optometrists.mb.ca and select *Find an Optometrist*, or call the Manitoba Association of Optometrists at 204-943-9811.

Eye See...Eye Learn®





The white copy is kept by the optometrist, the yellow copy is to be returned to the school, and the pink copy is for the family or family physician - La copie blanche est pour l'optométriste, la jaune pour l'école et la rose est pour la famille ou le médecin de famille

Please use ballpoint pen and press firmly - Veuillez utiliser un stylo bille et appuyer fermement

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION - RENSEIGNEMENTS D'IDENTIFICATION

Student Name (Last, First) - Nom de l'étudiant (nom, prénom)

Name of School - Nom de l'école

Year of Birth - Année de naissance

Grade - Classe

Classroom Teacher - Enseignant

CASE HISTORY - ANTÉCÉDENT

Ocular History - Antécédents oculaires Normal

Positive for - Positif pour: _____

Medical History - Antécédents médicaux Normal

Positive for - Positif pour: _____

Family History - Antécédents familiaux: _____

Unaided Acuity
Acuité sans correction OD 20 / ____ OS 20 / ____
Best Corrected
Meilleure acuité visuelle OD 20 / ____ OS 20 / ____

Binocular Vision:
Vision binoculaire: Normal - Normale Abnormal - Anormale

Details - Détails: _____

DIAGNOSIS - DIAGNOSTIC

Normal Myopia - Myopie Hyperopia - Hypermétropie Astigmatism - Astigmatisme Strabismus - Strabisme Amblyopia - Amblyopie

Colour Vision - Perception visuelle des couleurs Normal Colour Deficient - Déficient Further Testing Required - Tests supplémentaires requis

Depth Perception - Perception de la profondeur Present - Présent Further Testing Required - Tests supplémentaires requis

Other - Autre: _____
Please provide information on issues that may affect reading and learning - Veuillez donner l'information sur les problèmes qui pourraient influencer la lecture ou l'apprentissage

RECOMMENDATIONS - RECOMMANDATIONS

1. Corrective Lenses - Lentilles ophtalmiques: No - Non Yes - Oui

Glasses should be worn for - Les lunettes doivent être portées pour:

Constant Wear - Port régulier Near Vision - Vision de près Far Vision - Vision de loin May be Removed for Physical Education - Peuvent être ôtés pour l'éducation physique

2. Preferential seating recommended: No - Non Yes - Oui
Place préférentielle recommandée au sein de la classe: _____
Comments: commentaires: _____

3. Recommended re-examination: 3 months mois 6 months mois 12 months mois Other: Autre: _____
Nouvel examen recommandé: _____

Date of Exam: _____
Date de l'examen: _____

Print Name: _____
Nom en lettres moulées: _____
Optometrist - Optométriste

Address: _____
Adresse: _____

Signature: _____
Optometrist - Optométriste

Consent of Parent or Guardian - Consentement du parent ou du gardien

I agree to release this information on my child/ward to the appropriate school, health authorities and **Eye See...Eye Learn**[®] program - J'accepte que les présents renseignements concernant mon enfant/pupille soient transmis à l'école, aux autorités sanitaires et au programme **Eye See...Eye Learn**[®]

(Parent's/Guardian's Signature - Signature des parents/gardiens)

Is this my child's first eye exam? Yes No
Premier examen oculaire pour mon enfant? Oui Non

To find an optometrist - Pour trouver un optométriste: www.mb-opto.ca/find-an-optometrist

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact the Manitoba Association of Optometrists
Si vous avez des questions concernant ce formulaire, veuillez communiquer avec l'Association des optométristes du Manitoba

204-943-9811 ♦ mao@mb-opto.ca ♦ www.mb-opto.ca

Optometrists' Offices: FAX this form to the Manitoba Association of Optometrists at 204-943-1208

This section to be completed by the Optometrist - Cette section doit être complétée par l'optométriste