

# CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELKS MAJOR PROJECT, INC.

## What parents need to know about their child's eyes?

### Questions all parents should ask:

#### Does my child have a vision problem?

Most children will not complain about seeing poorly. The child thinks "this is the way everybody sees". You won't know until you have your child's eyes checked.

#### Why is good vision important?

During a child's preschool years 80% of learning is visual. Learning colors, letters, shapes and numbers relies on the ability of the eyes to see well. Good vision continues to remain vital to a child's success in the elementary classroom, making it essential to find and correct eye problems before they interfere with school.



#### What signs should I look for?

Blinking - Closing or covering one eye - One eye that appears to wander inward or outward - Eyes that appear to cross (especially when tired) - Squinting or frowning - Tilting of the head - Holding objects or books too close to their face - Extreme sensitivity to light.

#### How can I find out if my child sees well?

A vision screening has been scheduled at your child's school. When you allow your child to participate in the screening your child will be assessed for possible problems. The screening adheres to California Public School Vision Testing guidelines.

#### What will the screener check?

Visual acuity. How the two eyes work together and individually. How the eyes follow and fixate on an object. Plus they will observe the quality of the red light reflex in each eye and the external eye health.

#### Who will screen the children?

A Certified Pediatric Vision Screener

#### Is a vision screening the same as a professional eye examination?

Is a vision screening the same as a professional eye examination? NO: A vision screening is not a substitute for a professional eye exam.

#### What kinds of problems can a vision screening uncover?

- \* Lazy Eye (Amblyopia): Children with amblyopia have one eye (usually) that the brain has decided not to use, loss of vision in that eye.
- \* Astigmatism: Children with astigmatism see things blurry.
- \* Farsightedness (Hyperopia): Farsighted children see far away objects well but things that are close are blurry.
- \* Nearsightedness (Myopia): Nearsighted children see nearby objects well, but not things far away.
- \* Crossed or misaligned eyes (Strabismus): Children with misaligned eyes have one or more muscles out of balance. This makes it impossible for the eyes to look at the same object at the same time.

#### How much does it cost to have my child's vision screened?

The vision screening is free! The Elks of California and Hawaii raise all the money necessary to support this program. The Elks, realizing the importance of finding visual problems early, has pledged its commitment by developing this program of supporting service to aid children at no cost to their families and without discrimination.

#### If an eye problem is found during the screening what should I do next?

Schedule an appointment with an Eye Doctor. Take the paperwork the Vision Screener provides to the appointment. Have the Eye Doctor complete the paperwork and return it to the Vision Screener. Follow all the Eye Doctor's orders precisely. A follow up appointment with the Eye Doctor may be needed. Let your Vision Screener know if we can further assist you.

#### Questions? Please Contact: Kimberly Anderson, Team Leader, Pediatric Vision Screener

(949) 218-3594

kandersonpvs@chea-elks.org

# **Vision Screening Provided FREE Through Donations by the Elks**

**Services Conducted by a Certified Pediatric Vision Screener**

Kimberly Anderson, Team Leader, Pediatric Vision Screener

(949) 218-3594 [kandersonpvs@chea-elks.org](mailto:kandersonpvs@chea-elks.org)

**Screening Date(s):** April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Time:** 9:15 AM

**Location:** Pasadena Christian Preschool

**Children Ages:** 3 through 6

# CALIFORNIA-HAWAII ELKS MAJOR PROJECT, INC.

*Elks Program for Children with Disabilities*

*Since 1950*

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## **Parents:**

The California-Hawaii Elks Major Project is a non-profit organization that offers free vision screening to children throughout California. The purpose of this screening is to identify children who may be at risk for undetected vision abnormalities. The screening is not a substitute for a doctor's eye examination.

The Vision Screening Program is performed by a Certified Pediatric Vision Screener and consists of the following for each child:

- \* assessment of visual acuity and external eye health
- \* evaluation of the ability of the two eyes to work together
- \* observation of the muscular ability of the eyes to follow, fixate and maintain binocular vision.

The Vision Screener will need to obtain your child's legal name, date of birth, your name, address and phone number for the sole purpose of providing vision screening results and obtaining follow-up information. The results will be provided to the Legal Guardian.

**There is no cost to the school or child for participation in this vision screening.** If you **DO NOT**

desire that your child participate in this screening, **please notify: Pasadena Christian Preschool**

**prior to the scheduled screening on: April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**