

VOICES Lions1-A

Chartered 2012

The screening program detects these vision problems in children:

Myopia (Nearsightedness) - Myopia causes the eyes to focus incorrectly, making distant objects appear blurred. It can be treated with glasses and typically is not amblyogenic as long as both eyes have similar degrees of myopia.

Hyperopia (Farsightedness) - Hyperopia causes difficulty seeing objects that are near. Small levels of far-sightedness are normal for young children, but high levels can cause problems. Left untreated, hyperopia can contribute to crossing of the eyes or poor vision in each eye. This condition can be corrected with glasses.

Astigmatism - Astigmatism is a condition in which the cornea (the clear covering of the front of the eye) has an abnormal curve, causing out-of-focus vision. Typically, an eye with astigmatism is not perfectly round but is slightly oblong, creating astigmatism. Astigmatism is not amblyogenic unless it is asymmetric or of a large degree.

Strabismus - Strabismus is when the eyes are not directed to an object simultaneously. Sometimes the eyes deviate inward, and other times the eyes deviate outward. Vertical Deviations can also occur, but are quite rare.

Anisometropia - This is a condition in which the two eyes have unequal refractive power–they are in different states of myopia (nearsightedness) or hyperopia (farsightedness). Anisometropia can adversely affect the development of binocular vision in infants and children if there is a large difference in clarity between the two eyes. The brain will often suppress the vision of the blurrier eye in a condition called Amblyopia, or lazy eye.

Anisocoria (Unequal Pupil Size) - Slight differences in pupil sizes are found in healthy people. Unequal pupil sizes of more than 1.5 mm may be a sign of an eye, brain, blood vessel, or nerve problem.