



*Confidence
to connect*

Glasses for Kids program

I am pleased to advise you that our school is participating in the Glasses for Kids program.

This program is providing free vision screening, further eye testing and glasses if required, for all Prep to Year 3 students in 250 of Victoria's government schools. It has a potential to reach more than 30,000 students and is being delivered as a partnership between State Schools' Relief and its partner providers, with the support of the Department of Education and Training.

All children, regardless of their background or circumstances, should have access to high-quality services and the supports they need to thrive and prosper. Children with uncorrected vision deficiencies can experience difficulty in learning, which can lead to behavioural challenges in the classroom. Identifying and addressing vision problems early ensures students don't fall behind. Children with vision deficiencies often do not report symptoms, assuming that everyone sees the world in the same way as they do.

Screening, testing, and the provision of glasses is backed by evidence as an effective means of supporting students and their families, by helping to improve learning behaviours and leading to better schooling outcomes.

The Glasses for Kids program will give an individual vision screening to students at school. Children who require additional eye testing will be referred to an established optometry practice for further bulk billed testing. Glasses will be dispensed for free, if needed.

The vision screening will be conducted at school by optometrists and final year optometry students from the University of Melbourne's Department of Optometry and Vision Sciences.

The scheduled date for screening at our school is **Monday 5 March 2018**

Parental consent will be required for students to participate in the program. Participation is voluntary.

An information sheet for parents which outlines key details about the program will be sent home with all Prep to Year 3 students. A consent form and a brief eye health questionnaire will also be sent home and these should be returned to school, completed and signed, to enable participation in the program.

Please read the information sheet thoroughly before giving your consent to participating in the program.