1600 W. 38th Street, Suite 100
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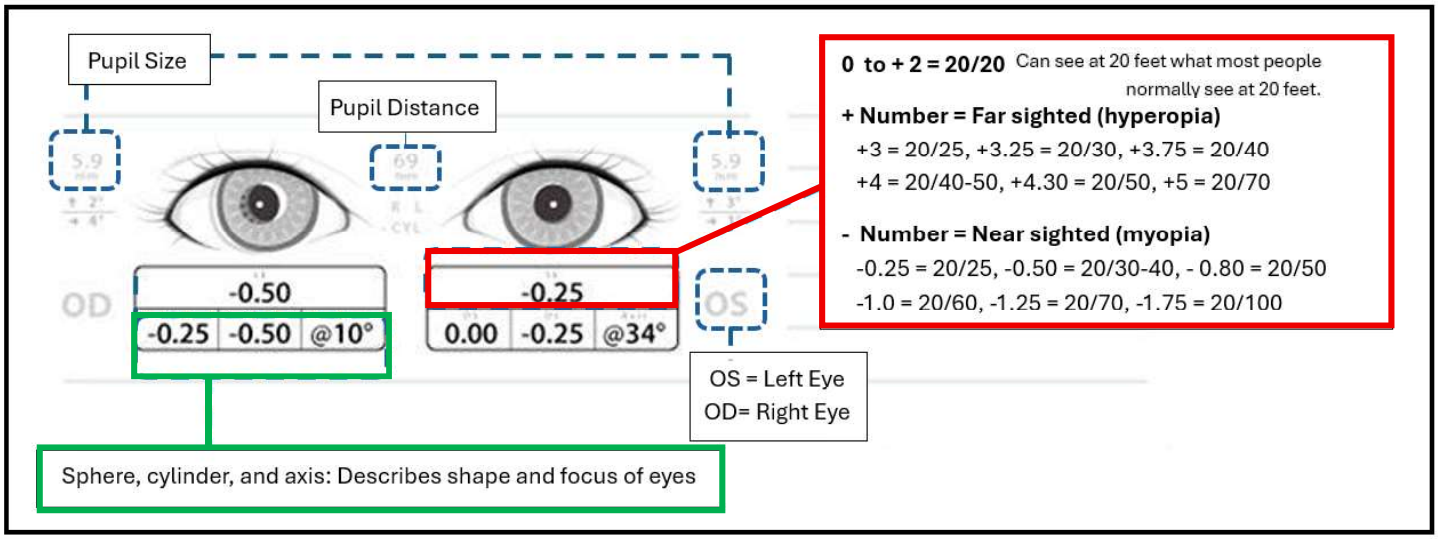
Understanding your Vision Screen Results

We use a Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener to assess vision as young as 2 years old. The screener camera measures how your child's eyes focus and move together. Using a light that shines into the eyes, it can read how that light bounces back and then detect differences in focusing (nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism), check whether both eyes see equally (anisometropia), look for eye misalignment (strabismus or gaze deviation), and compare pupil size (anisocoria). This screening helps find vision concerns early — often before your child can read letters or tell you that something looks blurry.

Screening results can look overwhelming. Feel assured that if your provider has any concerns with results, they will let you know! Also, they want you to share any concerns you may have. If you'd like to understand the results diagram in greater detail, use this chart to decipher your child's specific measurements.

Understanding Vision Acuity



Typical Visual Acuity by Age

- Age 2 → around 20/60
- Age 3–4 → around 20/40
- Age 5 → around 20/30
- Age 6–7 → 20/25 to 20/20 (adult-level clarity)

If there's more than a **two-line difference** between eyes, (for example, 20/20 in one eye and 20/40 or worse in the other), or vision is **below expected levels for age**, an **eye-doctor referral is recommended**

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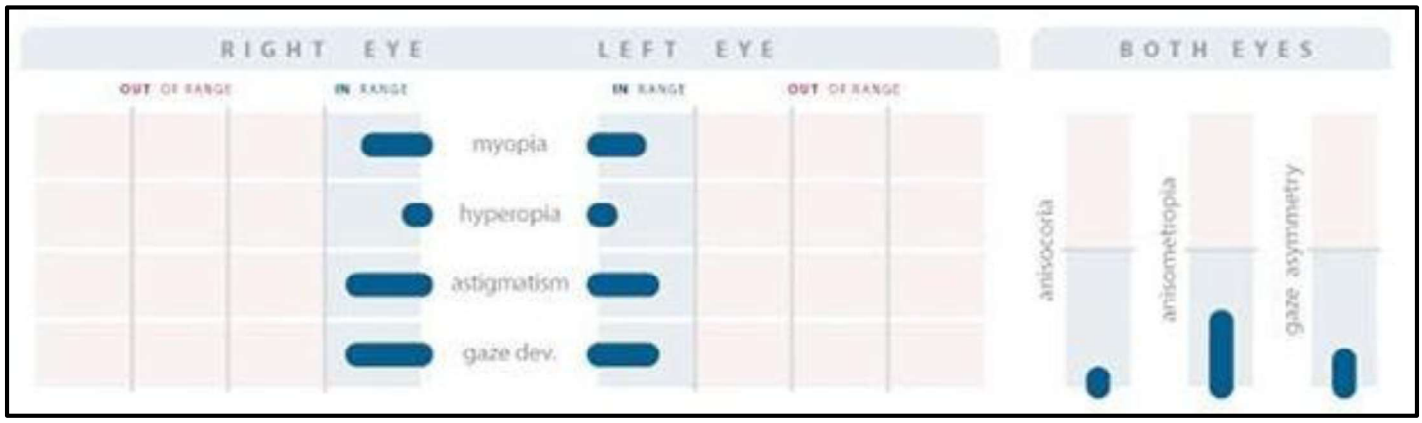
Understanding vision screener definitions

It's important to know that everyone's eyes are a little different, and the vision screener measures many details that can vary from person to person. Just because something is listed as a possible condition doesn't necessarily mean there's a problem — many findings are mild or within normal limits. These results simply help us decide if a closer look by an eye specialist might be helpful.



	Definition	What it describes and affects	When we might refer
Myopia (nearsightedness)	Can see close clearly but faraway things look blurry.	Eye focuses light in front of the retina instead of on it. Affects distance vision -may squint or sit close to the TV.	Trouble seeing the board, squints often, or fails a vision screening
Hyperopia (Farsightedness)	Can see faraway things better than up close.	Eye focuses on light behind the retina. Affects reading or near work. May cause blurry vision or eye strain	Blurry vision when reading, frequent headaches, or if the eyes turn inward.
Astigmatism	Vision is blurry at all distances	Cornea/lens is not perfectly smooth/spherical; can sometimes affect vision. **Often inherited from family**.	Frequent eye strain, squints, or fails a vision screening
Anisocoria (Unequal Pupils)	One pupil is larger than the other	Pupils don't react to light the same way. Usually nothing serious but rarely signals a problem.	If it's new, if the eyelid droops, double vision, or eye pain.
Anisometropia	Eyes need different prescriptions	Eyes focus differently. Brain may favor one eye, leading to "lazy eye."	Fails vision screening.
Gaze Deviation (Eye Misalignment)	Eyes don't look in the same direction	One eye may turn in, out, up, or down. Affects depth perception and clear vision.	Crossed or drifting eyes, if it's new, if it happens often
Gaze Symmetry	Eyes move and focus together	Eyes track smoothly in the same direction. Affects normal vision and depth perception	One eye doesn't follow objects or looks "off"