Eye Conditions Snippet

Condition Name: Marfan’s Syndrome

Description: This inherited syndrome affects the connective tissue in the body which can affect the heart, large blood vessels, lungs, joints, bones and eyes. For the eyes connective tissue problems can result in myopia, displaced lens, cataracts, retinal detachment and strabismus.

Effects on Vision: Myopia means distance vision of the student will be blurred. If the lens is displaced the student may have double vision as two images will be focussed on the retina. A displaced lens can also cause astigmatism and cataracts which also blur vision. Students with Marfan’s syndrome are at higher risk for retinal detachment which can lead to islands of vision which interrupt the normal field of view.

Educational implications: Depending on the degree of myopia the student may benefit from a slant board for near viewing. Blurred vision may be somewhat corrected by glasses and preferential seating. Retinal detachment may result in eccentric viewing or the need for preferential seating. Low vision aids to enlarge print may assist the student with their schoolwork.