**Eye Conditions Snippet**

**Condition Name:** Visual Field Loss

**Description:** This is the general name given when any part of the student’s overall field of vision is impaired or non-functioning. It can affect one or both eyes. Field loss can occur because of damage to the eye(s), the visual pathways to the brain, or to the specific parts of the brain that receive visual information.

**Effects on Vision:** If the affected area is impaired the student will have blurred vision in that part of their visual field. If the affected area is completely damaged, there will be no vision in that part of the visual field. If the macula is damaged the student will have blurred central vision. If the damage occurs at the optic chiasm the student will experience hemianopia. This is a corresponding field loss in both eyes. For example, both eyes lack vision in any of the right, left, upper or lower half of their visual field.

**Educational implications:** Students with visual field loss may experience early difficulties with part-whole relationships as concepts are developed. They may benefit from enlargement or low vision aids if acuity is affected. Students will also benefit from preferential seating to maximize the functional benefit of their working visual field. Students may also exhibit eccentric viewing in order to see. This should not be interpreted as inattention. Mobility may be affected, especially when drop offs or dangers from the side may be encountered.