

Referral to the Visual Impairment Service for children having amblyopia treatment

Ophthalmology / Orthoptics

Information for patients and carers

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Why is my child being referred to the Visual Impairment (VI) Service?

Your child is having treatment for amblyopia (reduced vision in one eye). This is often called a lazy eye.

During treatment, your child may need to use their weaker eye more. This means that some children may struggle with some activities and tasks, especially at school.

The Visual Impairment (VI) Team supports children with a range of visual condition and can work with your child's school to make sure the right support is in place.

How will the VI Team support my child?

The VI Team will usually visit your child within 2 to 4 weeks of receiving a referral from the orthoptist.

They will spend time with your child in the classroom and look at whether any changes are needed to help them learn and take part in school activities.

They may look at:

- the size of the text your child is reading
- how clear and easy to see the text is
- where your child sits in the classroom
- how your child moves around safely in school

The team will work with school staff to make sure the right support is in place.

How long will the VI Team support my child?

The VI Team can support your child while they are having amblyopia treatment and while vision in their weaker eye remains reduced.

The orthoptist will check your child's vision regularly and, with your consent, will keep the team updated about their progress. This will be through an outcome letter.

Once your child's vision has improved enough, they will no longer need support from the VI Team. You will be told when this happens.

Contacts and further information

If you would like to speak to someone, please contact the Orthoptic Department on 01925 662772.

Opening hours:

- Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm