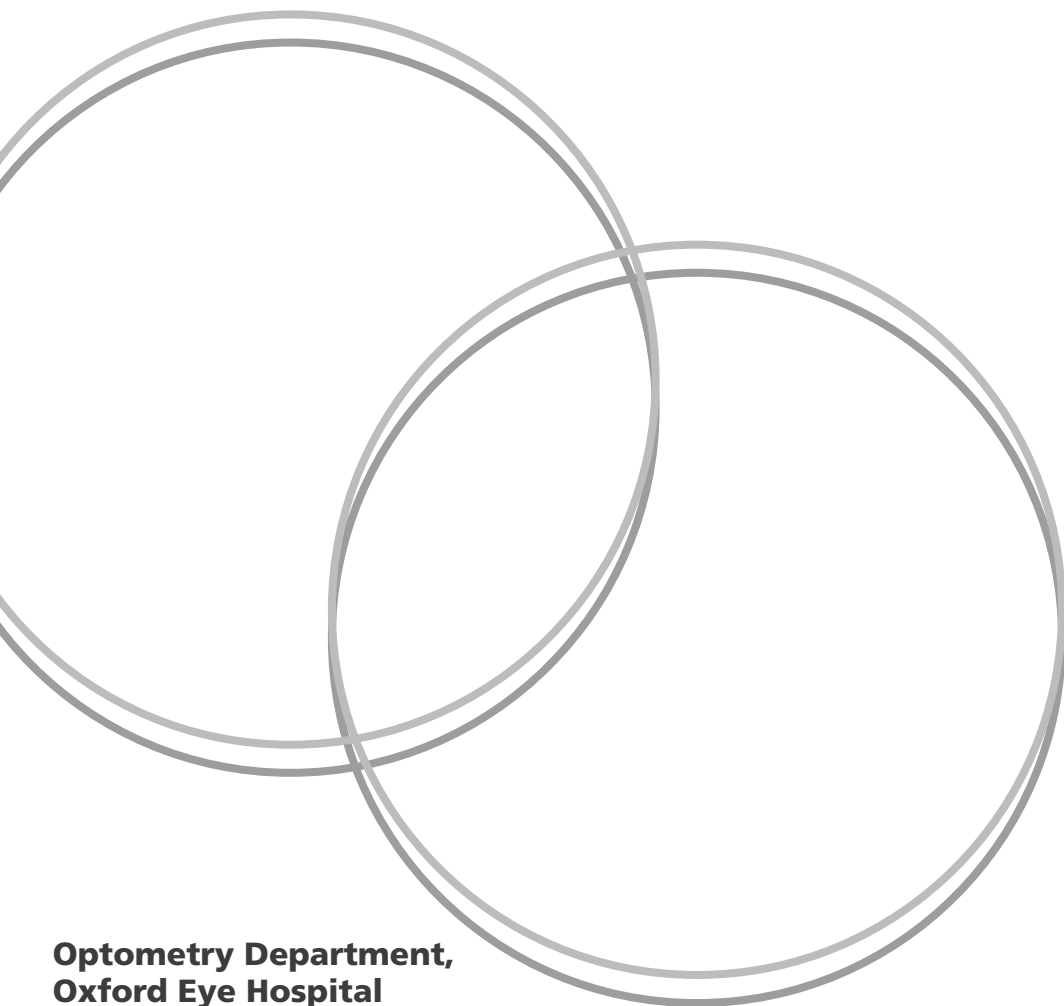




Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Children's Eye Clinic

Information for parents and carers



**Optometry Department,
Oxford Eye Hospital**

Your child has been booked an appointment with the Eye Team.

During the visit your child may be seen by up to three clinicians, each doing different but specialised examinations. From this we can assess your child's vision, eye coordination and eye health.

Coming to the department

The Children's Eye Clinic is based in the Oxford Eye Hospital on level LG1, within the West Wing building. This is next to the Children's Hospital at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington, Oxford.

There is ANPR in all visitor car parks. The first 30 minutes are free. This is to enable visitors plenty of time to find a space or wait for one to become free in busy times. You may prefer to come in by bus or use the 'Park and Ride' services around Oxford, which stop outside the West Wing entrance.

What to do when you arrive in the Eye Hospital on LG1

Please check your child in at the main reception desk. You will be directed to the appropriate clinic area by following the coloured markings on the floor.

Who you will see

The three different clinical groups your child may see are:

Orthoptics

The Orthoptist will measure what your child can see and assess any squint and eye co-ordination. Please remember to bring your child's glasses to the appointment.

Optometry

The Optometrist will assess whether your child has any long or short sightedness. This is done using a light which is shone into their eyes. The Optometrist may also check the health of your child's eyes.

Ophthalmology

The Ophthalmologist is the eye doctor who diagnoses any eye conditions and carries out any appropriate treatment.

Will my child need eye drops?

On the first visit, after the Orthoptist has measured your child's vision, it may be necessary to put in eye drops. We will ask for your consent to do this. The drops temporarily enlarge their pupil and relax the focusing muscles of the eyes. This allows the Ophthalmologist or Optometrist to examine your child's eyes accurately. If your child needs further reviews in the eye clinic we will be able to advise you how often they will need eye drops.

The eye drops take approximately 30 minutes to work. Some very dark coloured eyes may need a second drop to help the pupil enlarge.

What to expect with the eye drops

The drops will make your child more sensitive to light, so in sunny weather you will need to bring a cap or sunglasses for your child to wear afterwards.

After all the appointments have been completed children are usually fine to go back to school. You will need to let their teacher know that your child's vision may be blurred, especially for close work, for the rest of the day.

Refreshments

There are two coffee shops, one on LG1 and one on the floor below (LG2), which you may like to use while waiting for the drops to work. This may help keep your child busy whilst they are waiting.

How long should I allow for the first appointment?

Please allow approximately 2 to 3 hours for your child's first visit. This will give you time for your child to have all the necessary eye examinations, allow the eye drops to take effect and give us time to discuss the eye test results with you. Any follow-up visits, if they are needed, will be shorter.

Please note: unfortunately we have limited space in our waiting rooms and you may like to consider making alternative arrangements for any other children in your care.

Community eye clinics

If follow-up appointments are needed we may be able to see your child in a clinic nearer to your home. We hold certain clinics in Banbury, Wantage, Witney, Abingdon, Bicester and Didcot. Please ask us at the end of your visit.

If you have any questions please contact:

Orthoptic Department

Telephone: 01865 234 567 select option 1 followed by option 5
Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm

Optometry Department

Telephone: 01865 234 567 select option 1 followed by option 4
Monday to Friday, 8:15am to 4.30pm

Email: optometry.secretary@ouh.nhs.uk

**For more information about the Oxford Eye Hospital
please visit our website:**

www.ouh.nhs.uk/eye-hospital

Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

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Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
www.ouh.nhs.uk/information



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