

Information for Parents

Orthoptic and Optometry Clinic

Your child's appointment is to see an Orthoptist and an Optometrist. Please allow up to 2 hours for the appointment. If you need any information about getting to the hospital or car parking please see the hospital's website <https://mft.nhs.uk/royal-eye/>
<https://mft.nhs.uk/altrincham/>

The first person to see your child will be the Orthoptist. Their assessment may take up to half an hour. They will test your child's level of vision with each eye. Your child will need to have one eye covered at a time. This can be done with a patch over one eye or some glasses with no lens in one side and one side covered up.



They will look at how your child's eyes are working together. Your child will be asked to look at small toys, pictures or letters.

Your child may need to have some eye drops in before seeing the Optometrist. The eye drops will enlarge the pupils and stop them constricting in bright light. They will also stop your child's eye changing focus temporarily and take approximately 30 minutes to work, in which time you will be required to wait in the waiting room. The effect of the eye drops can last up to 24 hours.

After administering the eye drops, your child's eyes may be sensitive to light. You may wish to bring your child sunglasses or a hat to wear afterwards, particularly if it is very sunny.

Their vision will be blurred, especially for near so reading/schoolwork may be difficult. Your child can still go to school, but it is worth telling the teacher that your child has had eye drops that blur their vision.

If your child is attending the appointment with someone who does not have parental responsibility, please complete the Parental Consent for Eye Drops form at the bottom of this leaflet.

The Optometrist will see your child next. Their assessment may take up to half an hour. They will check if your child has any need for glasses, and check if the inside and back of their eyes are healthy. They will need to turn the room lights off and shine a bright light in your child's eyes.



Your child may need to wear some special glasses that hold different lenses, or they may need to put their chin onto a chin rest of a machine to look into their eyes. We will let you know if your child needs glasses or any other treatment and when they need to be seen again.

Child and Young Person Wellbeing

- If you are unable to attend this appointment, please contact us on **(0161) 276 5533 option 1** to rearrange.

Hospital staff have a duty to discuss with the hospital safeguarding team and other agencies if a child or young person is repeatedly not brought for health appointments or if their appointments are repeatedly cancelled.

Parental Consent for Eye Drops

Eye drops are required in children to perform a glasses test and check the health at the back of the eye. The eye drops dilate the pupil (makes the black part of the eye bigger) and stops the focussing power of the eye. This will make your child's eyes sensitive to light and their vision blurred. This may last for up to 24 hours before wearing off.

If a child is attending an appointment with someone who does not have parental responsibility, someone with parental responsibility **must fully complete** this form **and sign below** to give their consent for the eye drops to be used. **This letter must be brought to the appointment.**

Name:

Signed:

Child's Name:

Relationship to child:

Date:

If parental consent is not given, the examination will not be completed, and the appointment will need to be rearranged.