

CONTACT US:

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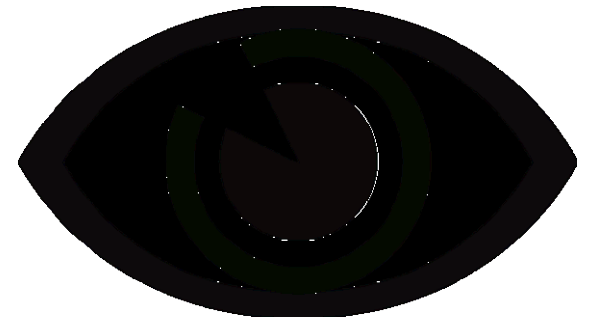
At times the telephone may be in use or on an answer phone. Please leave a message including your name, your child's name and their date of birth. One of the team will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please note the number from the department will appear as an 0800/withheld number on your phone/mobile.

ORTHOPTIST NAME _____



SQUINTS



**THIS LEAFLET IS DESIGNED TO
ANSWER SOME COMMON
QUESTIONS**



👁️ WHAT IS A SQUINT?

A squint occurs when an eye does not stay straight, stops working with the other eye and the vision may not develop as it should. The eye may turn towards the nose or turn outward, upward or downward. The medical term for squint is strabismus.

👁️ WHAT CAUSES A SQUINT?

In many cases a squint is caused by undetected long sightedness. A child may strain their eyes to see without glasses and this causes the eye to turn in. In other cases there may be no obvious reason but there is often a history of glasses and/or squint in the family.

👁️ WILL MY CHILD GROW OUT OF A SQUINT?

NO- although some squints improve as the child gets older.

👁️ WHAT TREATMENT WILL MY CHILD NEED?

Squints can be treated in a number of ways depending on its type. This may include glasses but in some



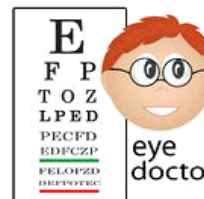
cases surgery may be required. Your Orthoptist/ Ophthalmologist will advise accordingly.

👁️ ARE ALL SQUINTS TREATED THE SAME?

NO. There are many different types of squint and many choices of treatment; some being more suitable for certain squints than others. No two squints should be compared.

👁️ WHO WILL TREAT MY CHILD'S EYES?

Ophthalmologist (Eye Doctor) - they will be responsible for your child's eye health and will carry out any surgery necessary.



Orthoptist (a specialist in the treatment of squints and children's eye development)- they will monitor the development of sight and will advise you of any treatment your child needs. They work closely with the ophthalmologist.

Optometrist (optician) – they will test your child's need for glasses (focussing error) and issue the prescription.

👁️ HOW LONG DOES TREATMENT TAKE?

This varies from patient to patient. The only general rule is that a good result is more likely to be achieved if treatment is started at an early age.



👁️ HOW DO I FIND OUT ABOUT MY CHILD'S EYE CONDITION?

The Orthoptist involved in your child's treatment will answer any specific questions you may have. Every case is different and, with your child's case notes to hand it is easier to answer any specific questions you may have.

