

Will I have to pay for my child's glasses?

You can buy glasses within the value of the voucher. Shop around to find glasses that fit well, that your child likes and that are free or don't cost you a lot of money. Remember, if you choose to pay towards the cost of the glasses, you will have to pay towards repairs and replacements. If you choose free glasses, repairs and replacements will also be free. Some opticians offer children 2 for 1 glasses with an NHS voucher - ask around.

What if I want a spare pair for my child?

Under NHS regulations we cannot issue a voucher for a spare pair of glasses or sunglasses. You can buy these by taking your copy of the prescription to an optician but you will have to pay the full cost of these. You don't have to buy these from the same place you got the first pair.

How often can I get a new prescription and voucher?

You are normally entitled to a new prescription and voucher for glasses every year unless your optometrist or orthoptist recommends a more frequent examination.



Useful numbers

Children's Community Eye Service
3rd floor
Stockdale House
Headingley Office Park
Victoria Road
Leeds LS6 1PF

Telephone: 0113 843 3620

Help us get it right

If you have a complaint, concern, comment or compliment please let us know by speaking to a member of our staff. We learn from your feedback and use the information to improve and develop our services.

If you would like to talk to someone outside the service contact the **Patient Experience Team** on **0113 220 8585**, Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm or email lch.pet@nhs.net

We can make this information available in Braille, large print, audio or other languages on request.

www.leedscommunityhealthcare.nhs.uk

© Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust, July 2018 ref: 0846 v2

Children's glasses

Information leaflet for parents
of children who have been
prescribed glasses



Information about wearing glasses

How much should my child's glasses be worn?

It can take some time to get used to wearing glasses especially if it's your first pair. To help your child get used to them, they should wear their glasses all day every day until you come back for your review appointment.

Your child may say that their vision is blurred when they first put the glasses on. This is not unusual and is part of getting used to wearing them. The more the glasses are worn initially, the quicker your child will settle into them. Please encourage your child to persevere with the glasses as much as possible.

How soon will my child's eyesight improve?

It can take 18 - 24 weeks for your child to get the full benefit of wearing glasses. This is because the part of the brain that is involved with eyesight needs to catch up with its development.

The more the glasses are worn, the better the eyesight can develop. If your child's eyesight is still reduced after this time, some other treatment may be required. Your orthoptist will discuss this with you.

Do I need to bring my child back to clinic after they have got their glasses?

Yes.

It is very important to check how well your child's eye sight is improving once they have their glasses. At the first follow up appointment (usually about 18 weeks after you are given the prescription) the orthoptist will check

your child's vision and how well the eyes are working together. They will then discuss with you whether any further treatment or follow up appointment is required.

What do I do if the glasses get broken?

The optician who made the glasses is responsible for repairing or replacing them whilst you have an up to date prescription. You must take the glasses back to where you got them. Please don't wait until your next appointment before you get the glasses repaired, take them back to the optician as soon as you can.

Glasses should continue to be repaired or replaced until you receive a new prescription and voucher - usually once a year. The clinic staff will decide when you require a new prescription, not the optician who provided the glasses.

What do I do if my child won't wear the glasses?

Check that the glasses are fitting comfortably first of all. They shouldn't leave red marks on the nose. Uncomfortable or poor fitting glasses are not pleasant to wear. You can seek advice from the optician if you have any concerns about how they fit. Depending on the age of your child, using strategies such as a star chart or reward system can help encourage your child to wear their glasses, getting relatives and teachers involved can also help. If you or other family members also wear glasses some of the time, wearing your glasses all of the time you are with your child can encourage them to wear theirs also.

If you simply cannot persuade your child to wear their glasses, please telephone **0113 843 3620** and ask to speak to an orthoptist who will advise you. Please don't wait until your next appointment as that may be many weeks away and this could delay your child's treatment.



Information about buying glasses

What are the forms I have been given?

You have been given two copies of your child's prescription. One is for you to keep for your records, the other copy contains a voucher towards the cost of the glasses. You must give this to the optician where you get the glasses made up. You can only use this once.

Where can I get my child's glasses?

You can get the glasses made up by any qualified optician. It is worth shopping around as prices and choice vary greatly from one optician to another. It is important that your child likes the frame and that it fits comfortably.