

Overview

- This service is commissioned by Primary Eyecare Services in collaboration with East Suffolk and North East Essex NHS Trust and Essex LOC for children registered with a North East Essex GP
- The service aims to deliver care for children closer to home, at times more suitable for families.
- Referral may be received by GP practices, health visitors, school nurses, or optometry practices.

Service Information

Accreditation

- Local accreditation including DBS and knowledge of local safeguarding procedures, level 2. [Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults - Essex LOC](#)
- WOPEC Paediatric module is recommended.

Referral and Entry Points

- Referrals from GP, health visitor, school nurse, school screening or non-participating practices.
- Following a sight test

Service Specifications

- GOS1 can be claimed at initial visit in addition to service fees
- GOS3 vouchers can be issued where appropriate
- Funded follow up at 6 weeks and 18 weeks
- Patients must be offered an appointment within a clinically appropriate time frame (depending on presenting symptoms).
- All patients must be seen within 14 days of referral
- All appropriate tests to determine ocular status must be undertaken, including cycloplegic refraction, in accordance with College of Optometrist guidelines on '[Examining younger children](#)'.

Following assessment

- Practitioners will provide information to assist appropriate management of the condition, where necessary.
- Assess the need and urgency of Ophthalmological referral and refer via OPERA.

Help and Support

See the OPERA Help Section, contact us through the Blue Bubble or email hello@referral.support

For local clinical queries contact your Primary Eyecare Services Clinical Lead



Inclusion Criteria

- Children aged 0-17 years old registered with a North East Essex GP.
- Visual Perceptual Difficulties
- Poor concentration whilst carrying out eye examination
- Severe behaviour Issues
- Premature baby 32+ weeks / above 1500g
- Child with family history of squint and child shows signs of eye problems when examined
- Family history of lazy eye if child shows signs of an eye problem when examined
- Suspected squint of Lazy eye 2021-2022 5
- Any other eye conditions that can be assessed, without risk, in preference to being referred to HES

Exclusion Criteria

- Neo-natal patients
- Patients not registered with a North East Essex GP.

