



Anisometropia

What is Anisometropia?

This condition occurs when two eyes have significantly different levels of vision and this interferes with the ability to have binocular vision and can cause blurred vision either just in one eye or in both (depending on the specific type of anisometropia). The eyes can either be both myopic (short sighted) but with significantly different prescriptions, or one eye can be myopic, and one can be hypermetropic (long-sighted).

The condition can cause the child to have the condition amblyopia (lazy eye), strabismus (squint- turn in the eye) or diplopia (double vision)

How does this affect the way the child sees?

They may experience one of the following:

- Double vision (diplopia).
- Blurred vision.
- Headaches.
- Poor depth perception.
- Dizziness.
- Eye discomfort.

What can be done to help?

Anisometropia is treated by correcting the eyesight through wearing glasses or contact lenses or surgery

- The child will require regular interventions from the Hospital Ophthalmology department.
- The treatments may include 'forcing' the brain to use the weaker eye by:
 - Patching the stronger eye (please refer to our leaflet on patching)
 - Using eye drops that blur vision in the stronger eye
 - Using filtered glasses that block vision in the stronger eye
- The child may be prescribed glasses, contact lenses or surgery.

How can parents, family, friends, and teachers make a difference?

If a child is squinting or you have any reason to believe the child is having difficulty seeing, visit the opticians for an eye test who may then refer the child on to an Ophthalmologist for further tests.

Finding vision problems early leads to early treatment and less impact on the child's learning and development within their whole life.

Please note the font used in this information leaflet is called Verdana and is used because it is one of the most visually friendly fonts for people with vision difficulties and is also Dyslexia friendly too.

Further information for support for children and young people with vision loss can be found on the Birmingham Vision Support Local Offer website:

[Birmingham Vision Support Team](#)