

GLOUCESTERSHIRE HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST



Welcome to Gloucestershire Orthoptic Services

The Gloucestershire Orthoptic Service provides a countywide Orthoptic service and delivers a wide range of specialist clinical Orthoptic clinics including the assessment of newly referred patients and the management of ocular motility problems in both children and adults.

We also provide a service for the Worcester Health & Care Trust at Evesham Community Hospital

Orthoptic Clinics

Orthoptic Clinics are provided at the following locations:

SITE	DAYS	TIME
Cheltenham General Hospital	Mon – Fri	9.00 – 17.00
Gloucestershire Royal Hospital	Mon – Fri	9.00 – 17.00
Cirencester Hospital	Mon, Tues, Fri	9.00 – 17.00
Stroud General Hospital	Mon - Fri	9.00 – 17.00
Tewkesbury Community Hospital	Thurs am – Friday pm	9.00 – 17.00
The Vale Community Hospital Dursley	Tuesdays (week 2,4,5)	9.00 – 17.00
Coleford Health Centre	Wednesdays (week 4)	9.00 – 16.00
Lydney Health Centre	Fridays (week 2 & 4)	9.00 – 14.00
StoneHouse Health Centre	Wednesdays (week 3) – 6 times a year	9.00 – 12.00
Cinderford Health Centre	Thursdays (week 1 & 3)	9.00 – 17.00
The North Cotswold Hospital Moreton-In-Marsh	Mondays (week 1,3,4,5)	9.00 – 17.00
George Moore Community Clinic Bourton-on-the-Water	Mondays (week 2) Mondays (week 1 & 5)	9.00 – 12.00 14.00 – 16.00
Tetbury Hospital	Wednesdays – 6 times a year	9.00 – 13.00

Speciality Clinics

Paediatric Specific Learning Difficulty Clinics

The purpose of the Specific Learning Difficulty (SLD) clinic is to establish whether any ocular defects and/or visual perceptual weaknesses may be contributing to a child's difficulty with literacy skills. This involves the use of coloured overlays which has been well documented in the treatment of binocular vision problems.

The Orthoptic Services currently run clinics for children with specific learning difficulties at the following times:

SITE	DAYS	TIME
Cheltenham General Hospital	Tuesdays (week 1)	9.00 – 12.00
Gloucestershire Royal Hospital	Mondays (week 1)	9.00 – 12.00

Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA) Uveitis Screening clinic

The purpose of the JIA clinic is to screen children, who have a diagnosis of JIA, for signs of Uveitis. Uveitis is a potentially sight threatening condition but in many children, especially the youngest there may be no symptoms at all.

The clinic was started in 2011 in response to the guidelines produced by British Society for Paediatric and Adolescent Rheumatology and Royal College of Paediatric Ophthalmologists.

The clinics run on:

SITE	DAYS	TIME
Cheltenham General Hospital	Wednesdays (week 1)	9.00 – 12.00
Gloucestershire Royal Hospital	Thursdays (week 4)	9.00 – 12.00

Stroke Services

We offer Orthoptic services to inpatients on Stroke Wards at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital. (Friday Mornings)

The Orthoptist aims to identify and treat any visual problems that may interfere with the patient's general rehabilitation programme and activities of daily living. We liaise with, and give helpful advice to, members of the Multi Disciplinary Team and the patients/carers, so as to be fully supportive throughout the rehabilitation programme.

Combined Paediatric Orthoptic and Optometry Led clinics

Children are referred to these clinics with suspected squint and or reduced vision. They receive a full Orthoptic assessment investigating their vision and ability to use their eyes together as a

pair. They also receive a full Optometric investigation assessing the health of their eyes and checking for any spectacle prescription.

SITE	DAYS	TIME
Cheltenham General Hospital	Mondays	13.00 – 17.00
	Thursdays	8.30 – 12.00
Gloucester Royal Hospital	Tuesdays	8.30 – 12.00
	Fridays	8.30 – 16.00

Consultant led Clinics

The following sites run combined Orthoptic and Optometry paediatric clinics led by Mr John Ferris, specialising in paediatric Ophthalmology, squint and adult ocular motility

SITE	DAYS	TIME
Cheltenham General Hospital	Wednesdays	9.00 – 13.00
Gloucester Royal Hospital	Thursdays	9.00 – 13.00
Stroud General Hospital	Mondays(week 1, 3, 4)	14.00 – 17.00

Squint surgery admissions information

All squint surgery takes place at Cheltenham General Hospital.

- On admission day you will be asked to attend EYFORD WARD East Block Cheltenham General Hospital early in the morning. The main pillared entrance on Sandford Road is open from 7.30am.
- You will be cared for and guided through procedures by the nursing staff on Eyford Ward including specially trained paediatric nurses if appropriate. Parents can remain with their child until they are taken into theatre.
- After the initial recovery all patients remain on Eyford until sufficiently well enough to go home. This is likely to be late afternoon. Adults remain on Eyford Ward for any planned adjustable suture procedure.
- During the initial recovery period an eye pad may be used to protect the operated eye. This would be removed before discharge. The operated eye/s look quite red initially but this does resolve with time.
- During and immediately after surgery itself painkillers are used to minimise discomfort. In time their effect does wear off and the eye/s may feel uncomfortable/prickly particularly on movement. Advice will be given on post-operative pain management prior to surgery or can be accessed via nursing staff before discharge.
- You will be provided with anti-inflammatory drops and information on how to apply post-operatively.

- You will receive a post-op Orthoptic appointment for approximately 3 weeks after surgery. If a consultant appointment is required then this will be arranged after discussion with an Orthoptist.

CONTACTS

- Telephone advice is available in the Orthoptic department Monday-Friday 9am - 5pm on:
0300 422 3190 (Administrator) Cheltenham General Hospital

It may be necessary to leave a message and there may be a few hours delay before the call is returned. Please bear this in mind.

- The Eye Casualty line is available 24hours a day on: 0300 422 3578
- Contact this number if:
 - Pain from the operated eye becomes severe and does not respond to pain management advice given
 - If the operated eye becomes sticky/has significant increase in redness or swelling

For valid emergencies use the nearest appropriate Accident and Emergency department.