

Pseudosquint

This leaflet explains the term pseudosquint. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact 020 7188 4299, and leave a message on our answer phone.

What is a squint?

A squint is a condition where the eyes are misaligned or crossed. One eye can turn in (convergent), out (divergent), up or down. Squints occur in approximately three out of 100 (3%) children.

What is a pseudosquint?

A pseudosquint is the **false** appearance of crossed eyes (squint) which usually fades or disappears as the child gets older.

How do you know my child has a pseudosquint and not a squint?

We know that your child has a pseudosquint and not a squint because;

- The Orthoptist (a health professional trained in visual developments and eye movement) has checked your child's eyes and can see that your child has good visual behaviour in both eyes and that they use their eyes together as a pair.
- The Ophthalmologist or Optometrist (both are medical professionals who specialise in the care of eyes) has checked that your child's eyes are healthy. They also checked that your child does not need glasses to help their vision. Needing glasses is sometimes associated with developing a squint.

Will my child be checked again at school?

Yes. Lambeth and Southwark council schools have an eye screening service run by Guy's and St Thomas' and King's Hospitals. Your child will be checked in reception year when they are four or five years old. If you move out of the area before your child has been screened, check with your new GP about a local eye screening service or visit an Optometrist.

Squint – the true appearance of misaligned eyes

The reflection from the light is not in the centre of each eye.



Pseudosquint – false appearance of misaligned eyes

The reflection from the light is in the centre of each eye.



What happens if I continue to have concerns?

While we know that your child is not squinting at the moment, your child may develop an eye problem later on. If you have concerns in the future about this or any other eye problems, visit your GP who will refer you back to this hospital for another check. Or if your child is over five years old and able to name letters of the alphabet you can go to an Optometrist for an eye check.

Useful sources of information

www.squintclinic.com – the videos are very helpful.

www.orthoptics.org.uk

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the **Orthoptic department on 020 7188 4299**, and leave a message on our answer phone. We aim to get back to you within three working days. (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm).

For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/leaflets

Pharmacy Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your medicines, please speak to the staff caring for you or call our helpline.

t: 020 7188 8748 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). To make a complaint, contact the complaints department.

t: 020 7188 8801 (PALS) **e:** pals@gstt.nhs.uk

t: 020 7188 3514 (complaints) **e:** complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk

Language and Accessible Support Services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch:

t: 020 7188 8815 **e:** languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk

NHS 111

Offers medical help and advice from fully trained advisers supported by experienced nurses and paramedics. Available over the phone 24 hours a day.

t: 111

NHS Choices

Provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make choices about your health.

w: www.nhs.uk

Get involved and have your say: become a member of the Trust

Members of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust contribute to the organisation on a voluntary basis. We count on them for feedback, local knowledge and support. Membership is free and it is up to you how much you get involved. To find out more, and to become a member:

t: 0800 731 0319 **e:** members@gstt.nhs.uk **w:** www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/membership

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