

Pseudosquint

This leaflet explains the term 'pseudosquint'. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call 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 children (3%).

What is a pseudosquint?

A pseudosquint is when there is the appearance of a squint but the eyes are proven to be 'straight'. This can occur due to facial features and eyelid position, and usually fades or disappears as the child gets older.

How do you know that 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 development, eye position and eye movement) has examined your child's eyes and has reported that your child appears to have good visual behaviour in both eyes, and his/her eyes are not misaligned (the eyes can work together as a pair)
- The Ophthalmologist or Optometrist (both specialists in eye examinations) has checked that your child's eyes are healthy and that glasses are not currently needed (needing glasses is sometimes associated with developing a squint).

Will my child be checked again at school?

Yes, schools in Lambeth and Southwark have an eye screening service run by Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Your child's vision will be checked when in reception class. 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 (Optician).

Squint – misaligned eyes

The reflection from the light is the centre of one eye but off-centre in the other.



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 does not have a squint at the moment, an eye problem may develop 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 Optician 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 to 5pm).

Evelina London Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's medicines, please speak to the staff caring for them or contact our helpline, **phone** 020 7188 3003, Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm **email** letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk

Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS), **phone** 020 7188 8801 **email** pals@gstt.nhs.uk. To make a complaint contact the resolution department **phone** 020 7188 3514 **email** 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, **phone** 020 7188 8815 **email** languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk

NHS 111

This service offers medical help and advice from fully trained advisers supported by experienced nurses and paramedics. Available over the phone 24 hours a day, **phone** 111 **web** www.111.nhs.uk

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