

## How can I get access to the Visual Impairment Service?

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If you have any concerns about your child's vision the first thing to do is make an appointment with an Optician. If hospital assessments are then carried out, the Visual Impairment Service will be notified by the Orthoptists if additional support or monitoring is required in school and the appropriate referrals made.

## Feedback on the Visual Impairment Service

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Feedback from anyone who has accessed our service either directly or indirectly is appreciated and carefully considered. If you would like to provide the team with some feedback or suggestions as to how we can develop and improve our services, please feel free to contact us.

## Contacts

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For more information, the Visual Impairment Service can be contacted as follows:

Visual Impairment Service  
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# The Visual Impairment Service

## What is the Visual Impairment Service?

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We are a small team consisting of a qualified teacher for the Visually Impaired (QTVI) and a keyworker who is visually impaired trained.

The Visual Impairment Service forms part of the Education Support Team within the Education Department. The service runs as an outreach service.

## What does the Visual Impairment Service do?

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Working together with medical professionals, school staff, parents and carers, we provide specialist educational support to overcome barriers to learning for children and young people who have a medically diagnosed visual impairment.

We may work with a child from the early years until they leave school.

We work alongside a local charity 'Eyecan' (formerly The Jersey Blind Society) to access their Assistive Technology Specialist and Rehabilitation Officer.

Through this partnership we also provide fun, social activities throughout the year for children, young people and their families.

## How might the Visual Impairment Service work with my child?

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The service aims to:

- Support schools in the successful inclusion of students with visual impairments
- Help students with visual impairments to achieve their full potential in all aspects of their development
- Work with families and other agencies towards supporting students whose learning and/or development is affected by a visual impairment

We can provide:

- Support to children, families and schools from the moment they are identified as visually impaired
- Advice and training
- Assessment and on-going monitoring of how the child is using their vision
- Guidance on the effects of reduced vision for development and learning and practical strategies that help
- Support for successful inclusion in all education settings
- Recommendations for the adaptation of the environment
- Advice on differentiating the curriculum and adapting learning materials into large print, Braille etc.
- Advice and evidence for Records of Need, and recommend exam dispensation
- Attendance at annual reviews on request
- Advice and training on the use of access technology and loan of some specialist equipment
- Advice/support for successful transitions between placements
- Peer group awareness and social inclusion
- On-going support and advice to families and carers