



DERBYSHIRE LOCAL OFFER VISION IMPAIRMENT

VISION IMPAIRMENT TEAM

We work with children, young people, and their families, offering information and support where vision difficulties may impede learning or development.

Criteria for involvement

The acceptance of a referral to the team is based on the following criteria:

- Children and young people with vision difficulties that range from minor impairments to total blindness - a child whose vision is corrected to normal by wearing glasses is not visually impaired
- All referrals must be in the age range of 0 to 16 years, or up to 19 years if the young person attends a school post-16 provision
- All referrals must have had a recent medical appointment within the last 6 months with a medial eye specialist



Most of the children supported by the service do not have an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP), but those with the greatest need may need to undergo assessment.

What we do

We will assess children and young people with a vision impairment. We will then offer advice on teaching strategies and the management of the needs of the pupil and their access to the curriculum. This will involve advice on the use of certain equipment and materials, as well as direct teaching of specific skills such:

- Typing
- The use of magnifiers
- Braille and
- Mobility

The service will also monitor the needs, and progress of, and provision for the pupil.

Staff will provide training on issues concerning the education of children and young people with a vision impairment, and give advice on any assessment, teaching assistant provision, and equipment necessary.

The service regards itself as part of the team surrounding each child or young person that it supports, and values the involvement of parents, carers, and colleagues from other agencies. It actively contributes towards individual education plans, action planning meeting, and statutory reviews.



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Referrals:

A referral may be made by any person involved with the child or young person, providing they have obtained parental, or carer permission and they have seen a medical eye specialist within the last 6 months.

It is helpful if as much information about the difficulties the child is encountering with his or her sight is included.

For further information, please visit:

[The Derbyshire Local Offer - Vision Impairment](https://www.localoffer.derbyshire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/inclusion-support-advisory-service/sensory-and-physical-support-service/vision-impairment/vision-impairment.aspx)

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Contact Details:

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Vision Impairment Team

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