

Eye Examinations and Spectacles for Children and Young Adults

The Eye Examination via any Optometrist

All children under 16 and everyone under 19, and still in full time education, are entitled to sight tests funded by the government. There is no limit to the number of sight tests each child can have per year as long as there is a clinical need for each examination.

TIME: Technical Sight Tests vs Clinical Eye Exams

A clinically thorough Eye Exam must include TIME to explain. Parents should be fully informed of all our procedures and why they are carried out. Time must be spent to clarify any concerns you have about your child's sight.

What is long sightedness (hyperopia)? Do you understand myopia (short sight), its progression and how it can now be controlled? Astigmatism and lazy eyes (amblyopia) are yet more mysteries we must explain when appropriate. When and how should the glasses be worn and why. Why can some spectacles be difficult to get used to and others don't seem to make a lot of visual difference? We can not expect parents or young people to be compliant with a procedure if not explained. If you have a worry or query though please ask. Your child's sight is too important to accept anything without explanation.

Advanced Tests, Routine at Aarons

Keratoconus (KC) is a little recognised eye condition causing the cornea to distort. Importantly there is now treatment to STOP KC progressing. Results are best when the problem is detected at the earliest stage; ideally before the patient is aware. Detection is only possible With Retinoscopes and Corneal Topographers, expensive technology not part of an NHS eye exam. At Aarons we have made Corneal Topography available as a screening process for all young people. Usually costing £25.00 it is now offered FREE. **No other optometrists in the area offer this screening service.**



The Aaron Policy on Children's Spectacles

If a child requires spectacles the government supplies a voucher toward the cost. We believe ALL children should be able to go to school with a modern trendy frame they will not be embarrassed to wear. It is vital children are happy with their frames and will wear them. For this reason we have a large range of plastic and metal frames supplied FREE with the voucher. All frames are of modern designs, regularly changed to keep up with trends, so important to young people.

The Importance of Allowing Choice

Out of courtesy it is important not to presume what people value. Therefore, we also have a huge range of designer frames, including Ray Ban which are very popular. The NHS voucher is still valid for these spectacles but the cost of the frame is not covered by the voucher and extra costs apply. So, for those of you who want the ultimate in designer names for your children we have them.

Spectacle Repair Vouchers

A new voucher for spectacles is only available with an Eye Exam. Between scheduled checks however, if a child's glasses are broken or lost, repair vouchers can be issued. These can cover a repair or a totally new pair if the spectacles are lost or buckled beyond repair. These repair vouchers can be issued as often as required.

We will not reduce clinical care for sales

The availability of 'Repair Vouchers' makes the gimmick of 2 pairs unnecessary. We will not compromise clinical care for technical refractions. 'Retinoscopy', vital for accurate prescribing and preliminary diagnosis of keratoconus, is time consuming.

The art is being lost; many practices no longer do this essential technique, presumably to enhance refraction speed. Further, with the advent of Cross-Linking, waiting for treatable problems such as keratoconus to manifest as vision reduction is no longer acceptable. We would rather give your child enhanced clinical care, inherently the most valuable service.

