

Orthoptist



NHS

**Lancashire Teaching
Hospitals**

NHS Foundation Trust

What is an Orthoptist?

Orthoptists are the experts in diagnosing and treating defects in eye movement and problems with how the eyes work together, called binocular vision.

Orthoptists see patients across a wide age range from premature babies to adults many in their 90's with a variety of conditions affecting their vision, vision development and eye coordination. They are trained to offer a range of treatments including eye patches, eye exercises, prisms or glasses. Orthoptists commonly work with the following patient groups/conditions:

- Neurological - such as stroke, brain tumours, acquired brain injuries or multiple sclerosis
- Maxilla-facial
- Endocrinology
- Glaucoma
- Low Vision support
- Neonatal screening
- Visual Processing/Perception disorders

Where will you find our Orthoptists?

Our Orthoptists are part of the ophthalmology team based at the new Lancashire Eye Centre at Chorley Hospital.

They run clinics both autonomously and jointly with Ophthalmologists and Optometrists at both sites as well as several community clinics.

Orthoptists regularly visit the wards to assess in-patients and are often part of the stroke multi-disciplinary team.

Future aspirations for the profession:

- Expand the Advanced and Consultant workforce
- Develop support worker roles
- Develop a funded research orthoptist role

