

## Vision support team

### Team Managers:

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### Advisory Teachers:

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## Contact us:

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### The Specialist Teaching Service comprises:

- ▶ Assistive Technology for Education Team
- ▶ Autism & Learning Team
- ▶ Hearing Support Team
- ▶ Vision Support Team

Leicestershire  
Specialist  
Teaching  
Service



# Vision Support Team

Leicestershire  
**SEND**

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## What is meant by visual impairment?

- ▶ This term covers a number of conditions which can adversely affect near and distance vision and/or visual fields.
- ▶ A child or young person with a visual impairment may suffer difficulties in the range of what can be seen clearly, vision may be blurred or distorted or the field of vision may be reduced
- ▶ Visual impairment will reduce the level of a child or young person's experiences by limiting their ability to gain information from the immediate environment including the home and school

## Referrals

A referral can be channeled via a recognised medical source i.e. ophthalmologist, paediatrician, school doctor/nurse, health visitor, GP etc.

By the child's teacher or school SENDCO (every school or nursery will have one)

### Or by the child's family if:

- ▶ it is known that a child or young person has a visual impairment
- ▶ there is a concern that a child or young person is experiencing difficulties which may be related to their use of vision

## The aims of the vision support team

- ▶ to offer advice and support to all children and young people who have a visual impairment, their families, school and other relevant professionals
- ▶ to provide for children across the full age and ability range, including those with additional difficulties
- ▶ to respond to the statutory requirements of the Code of Practice

## The services we provide

- ▶ experienced advisory teachers holding additional specialist qualifications in visual impairment provide:
- ▶ assessment of the functional vision of children and young people, who may have a visual impairment, their performance and abilities
- ▶ interpretation of ophthalmic information and its educational implications for pupils, parents, schools and colleges, including effects on physical, cognitive, emotional, social and language development
- ▶ direct teaching and non-teaching support for children in their homes, and/or educational establishments
- ▶ specialized materials and training, and recommend equipment and strategies to enhance the learning opportunities in homes, schools and colleges
- ▶ specialist advice and INSET for parents, teachers and other professionals who work with visually impaired children and young people
- ▶ involvement in the Sight on Sound Parents Group to encourage a supportive network
- ▶ advice to the LA on all matters relating to visual impairment