

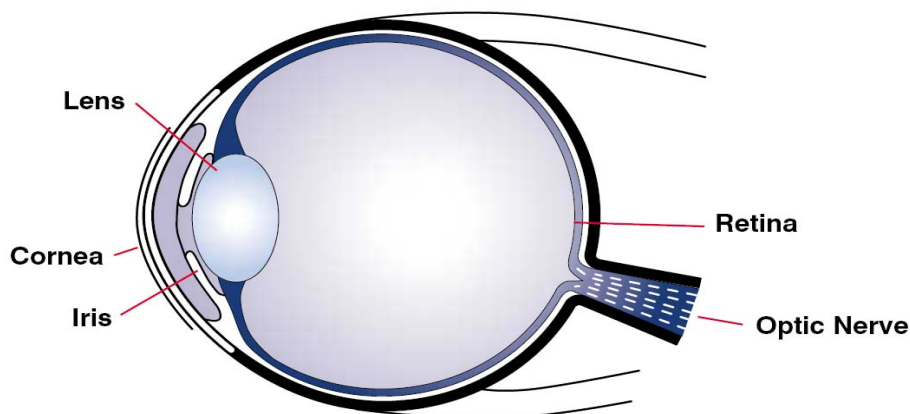
POOR OR NO VISION IN ONE EYE

What we see is in fact made in the brain. The brain makes sight from signals given to it by the eyes.

What is the normal structure of the eye?

The eye is made of three parts.

- A light focusing part at the front (cornea and lens).
- A light sensitive film at the back of the eye (retina).
- A large collection of communication wires to the brain (optic nerve).



How does this affect the way my child sees?

1. If the vision in the other eye is normal, there should be very little effect.
2. Some children will turn their head to the side of the weaker eye to centralise their vision.
3. If there is a sudden loss of vision in one eye there may be some initial problems judging depth and distances.

What can be done to help?

Usually nothing else needs to be done once the initial problem has been treated.

If there is a head turn, this does not need to be corrected.

How can parents, family, friends and teachers make a difference?

In the case of sudden loss of vision in one eye, the child and family may need reassurance.

The use of protective spectacles is important especially for sport and activities where accidents to the eyes are possible.

Useful contacts.



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LOOK (or families with visually impaired children)

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This information is intended to describe most aspects of the condition but each child is different and there will always be exceptions to the rule.

Acknowledgements

This leaflet was compiled by a multidisciplinary team from the eye departments at Birmingham Children's Hospital and Birmingham Heartlands Hospital, Birmingham Focus on Blindness and Birmingham Specialist Support Services.