Here are the Community Services that are available in this area/practice.

**Cataracts**
- Community Cataract Post-op
- Community Cataract Referral

**Children’s eye care**
- Community Children’s Screening

**Glaucoma related services**
- Community Glaucoma Refinement
- Community Glaucoma Repeat Readings
- Community OHT Monitoring

**Acute Eye problems**
- Community Ophthalmology Service
- Community PEARs
- Community ACES
- Community Minor Eye Conditions

**Other Services**
- Community Learning Disabilities
- Community Low Vision Service

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**EYES RIGHT?**

Now there’s every reason to make sure they are

Read about the new community eye care services becoming available and where to find out where they are provided locally and which opticians can provide what you need.

Around two million people in the UK are living with some degree of sight loss, half of which could have been avoided through early discovery by a simple sight test. Many with poor vision could have their sight improved by visiting their optician often free to many including all over 60 yrs.

Sight loss affects people of all ages but especially older people. It is expected that those with sight loss in the UK will, by 2050, be likely to be double today’s figures.

In our society this is unacceptable and we must rely on family and community to encourage particularly the elderly to take a sight test by one of the 13,500 registered optometrists in the UK. A sight test of the eye can reveal many conditions such as high blood pressure or diabetes, as well as defects in vision, signs of injury, ocular diseases or abnormality and other problems with general health.

Falls, often linked to poor eye sight, are the most common cause of hospitalisation for people aged over 65 and remain the biggest cause of accidental death in people aged over 75.

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This leaflet has been produced by: www.mylocaloptician.co.uk a public eye care and eyewear educational website for the UK
Community Enhanced Services

Nowadays, many optical practices are successfully and safely delivering community services in primary care for eye conditions such as glaucoma and ocular hypertension, cataract, minor eye conditions and for people with learning disabilities. These services are contracted by local and regional CCGs (Clinical Commissioning groups) and speed up the recognition, diagnosis and referral of eye defects and disease and have been shown to provide more successful outcomes. They are called Community Services in Eye Care and you can find out what your local area has agreed with local opticians by searching the “Find my Optician” app on www.mylocaloptician.co.uk.

Delivering these eye health services outside of a hospital setting is freeing up hospital capacity to cope with increasing demand from an ageing population and the management of more complex cases, and is offering patients greater choice and access.

Where these services have been contracted some but not all optical practices have been accredited to provide them and once again you can search for those providing the services as they commence in your area by searching the “Find my Optician” app on www.mylocaloptician.co.uk.

So, the message for you and your family is:

- Check how long it is since you and your family last had an eye test. If over two years book up your test. (If you are over 60, or have children in your family, 1 year is normally the recommended interval between tests.)
- Make sure that the elderly friends and family around you know how important an eye test can prove.
- Remember that those in care especially those suffering any form of dementia have been proven often to have unrecognised vision problems. There are domiciliary services providing eye care services at home for the housebound and in residential care.
- Those driving our busy roads also have a duty to ensure their eyes would pass a driving vision test for their own sakes and the lives of others.
- Listen and watch your children at school and play and consider if both their eyes work well.
- Regular headaches? Dizziness and migraine? Difficulty in reading small print on TV? Get it checked. Old age is not an excuse for poorer vision.

Remember:

- Smoking dramatically increases your chance of blindness in later life
- Obesity leading to Type II Diabetes will affect your eye sight
- Unprotected eyes from harmful UV light (especially in young children) is proven to increase the risk of cataracts
- Poor eye sight increases the risk of a fall in the elderly and social exclusion