



Children and Young People's Services

Answering your Child/Young Person's Questions

As a child/young person becomes aware of their vision impairment, it is highly likely that they will have questions about their condition and how it may affect them and their future life. When such questions arise, it is possible that you may, for a number of reasons, feel unable or unwilling to answer. This may be because, you would naturally like to protect your child/young person, because you do not have the answers yourself, or you have not yet come to terms with their diagnosis in your own right.

All of these concerns and feelings are natural and are part of a process you will go through, whilst coming to terms with and learning to accept your child/young person's condition.

Being open and honest, can help to prevent your child/young person becoming frightened by or uncomfortable about their vision impairment and help them to feel secure and aware, that you are there to support them, to overcome any obstacles or barriers they may face.

Try to avoid keeping secrets from a child/young person as this may lead to feelings of unease and/or anxiety. This is also true for brothers and sisters (siblings) of child/young person with vision impairment who will be worried and anxious about what is happening in the family. Please see our information relating to siblings for more advice on this issue.

If you do not feel able to answer your child/young person's questions, because you do not feel that you yourself have the answers, or you are not sure when the time is right, it is possible to seek help and support from a number of sources.

In the first instance, you can speak with your child/young person's eye doctor (Ophthalmologist), who will be able to discuss your child/young person's condition and diagnosis with you from a medical standpoint.



Our Specialist Family Support Officers can support you with a range of issues surrounding your child/young person's diagnosis: we can talk through the diagnosis with you and explain medical terminology, we are able to offer emotional support, so you have someone to talk to outside your family circle and we can offer, advice and information, on other sources of support and services which could be relevant to your child/young person.

For further support contact:

Tel: 0800 781 1444

Email: cypservices@guidedogs.org.uk