

## Patient information

# Cyclopentolate eye drops

### What are Cyclopentolate eye drops?

These are drops that temporarily enlarge (dilates) the pupil and temporarily blur vision. This allows the doctor to examine your child's eyes to see if glasses are needed and to check if the eyes are healthy.

### What effect will the drops have?

- The drops usually take 20 - 40 minutes to work.
- Brown eyes may take longer to dilate because of the darker eye pigmentation and two drops may be required.
- The drops vary in their effect and may last up to 24 hours.
- Your child may find that their vision becomes blurred, especially for close work, and their teacher or nursery leader should be made aware of this.
- Some children become sensitive to bright light whilst the pupils are large. Wearing sunglasses or a sun hat may help.

- Whilst the vision is blurred, and the pupils are large, your child should take extra care.

If you have any worries or concerns after leaving the department please contact the Orthoptic Department on 01284 713817 or contact your GP or the emergency services.

## **Can my child return to school / nursery today?**

If your child's teacher is happy to provide the necessary supervision to ensure safety then there is no reason why your child may not return to school or attend nursery after having eye drops. However, it is advisable not to take part in sports and games lessons until the blurred vision has worn off completely.

## **Can my child go swimming later today?**

Whilst swimming after eye drops will not harm the eyes safety in the water is vital. Your child's vision will be blurred after the drops. It is best not to allow them to swim unless you are sure they will be closely supervised.

A final decision regarding activities after having eye drops is probably best made just before the time of the event as each child is different and will vary in what they are able to do after eye drops.

*If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (formerly DisabledGo)*

<https://www.accessable.co.uk>

