

# Joined Up Careers Derbyshire

## Orthoptics

### What is orthoptics?

An orthoptist specialises in diagnosing and managing a variety of eye conditions, typically around how the eyes work together, visual development and eye movements.

You will work with a range of patients to help improve their lives - this could be by assessing and treating visual defects in babies and young children or rehabilitating those who have suffered a brain injury or stroke.

Conditions are often treated using glasses, eye patches or exercises but sometimes symptoms can be a sign of a serious condition – you will play an important part in recognising these symptoms.

You will typically work in a hospital setting alongside eye surgeons, optometrists and nurses.

### Do you have what it takes?

You will need to train to a degree level and register with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) to practice orthoptics. Entry requirements differ depending on the university but typically ask for two or three A Levels (including a science) and five GCSEs including maths, English and science.

Communication skills are vital in orthoptics when working with a range of patients and explaining treatments. Observation skills and an attention to detail are also important in accurately diagnosing conditions.

### What's in it for you?

- Rewarding career
- Excellent employment prospects
- Competitive pay
- Progression opportunities
- Variety

### How can I find out more?

Visit [Health Careers](#)  
Visit [British and Irish Orthoptics Society](#)  
Visit [Health and Care Professions Council](#)