

Optometry Bulletin

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Thank You

Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and announcement of the bank holiday on The Queens state funeral, Monday 19th September, we were required to obtain opening hours information at very short notice. Thank you so much for responding to our request so promptly.

Temporary Changes to Hours

Please can you email us with full details if you are unable to fulfil your contracted GOS hours. Please email any changes to england.optometricsouthwest@nhs.net

Christmas planning

We will be compiling hours for the Christmas bank holiday shortly and sharing, in draft, during October. Please ensure you notify via email to the address below if your hours on any of the none bank holiday dates will be less than your usual hours. If you intend to open on 26th, 27th or 3rd January please also notify via email. If your regular hours differ from those we have on record please notify via email as a contract variation will need to be issued. All emails should be directed to england.optometricsouthwest@nhs.net

Health & Social Care Worker Seasonal Flu & COVID-19 Vaccinations

The document below contains information regarding this year's Autumn flu and Covid-19 booster vaccinations.



Health _ social care
worker winter vaccir

Remote Refraction Message

A clinical pathway using remote refraction as a separate process to an eye health examination is not permissible as part of a GOS sight test. Section 26 of the Opticians Act 1989 clearly states that the performer has a duty to carry out an eye health examination as part of a sight test, and to provide a written statement that states that the sight test has been carried out in accordance with the regulations. The Opticians Act also makes it clear that the patient shall not be required to purchase an optical appliance as a condition of having a sight test.

GOS contractors found to be deviating from the definition of a sight test as set out in section 26 of the Opticians Act 1989 will be in breach of their GOS contract.

Please note this only concerns provision under a GOS contract.

If you have any queries please get in touch by emailing england.optometricsouthwest@nhs.net

Professionals' Open Day at College for Visually Impaired Young People

There isn't long until The Royal National College for the Blind (RNC) is hosting its first Open Day for professionals working with visually impaired young people.

RNC is the UK's leading specialist residential college for young people aged 16 to 25 who are blind or partially sighted.

Professionals' Open Day

When? Thursday 13 October 2022, 10am to 3:30pm

Where? RNC, Venns Lane, Hereford, HR1 1DT

Cost? **FREE!**

During the day, all attendees will be able to go on a detailed tour around our College including exploring the residential, academic and vocational areas.

The schedule will feature a special panel and seminar session featuring staff from various departments including IT Skills, Independent Living Skills and Mobility, Sport and Funding.

There is also the opportunity to network with other attendees during lunch and speak to current students.

[Book your place online now!](#)

<https://www.rnc.ac.uk/event-item.aspx?id=81>

Or, if you would rather the application in a Word document, please email info@rnc.ac.uk to request one.



Professional Open
Day 2022 Portrait Po

Free CPD events

To assist GOS contractors and performers claim the appropriate fees for GOS in England, the BSA team of clinical advisors is delivering a series of General Optical Council (GOC) accredited CPD events. These events are free of charge and will be delivered online throughout the months of September and October 2022.

Attendance to the CPD event (C-102790) provides one interactive GOC point under the Leadership and Accountability domain. It is pre-approved and not a self-directed learning point.

The content of the CPD events will cover the appropriate use of recall codes, together with specific clinical examples on how the frequency of sight test recalls should be applied for different types of GOS patients.

Each event will last an hour and the dates and times of the remaining sessions are listed below:

- Friday 7 October 2022 - 8.30am
- Monday 10 October 2022 - 12.30pm

[Book your space on our next event.](#)

Patient Summit

The South West Eyecare Transformation Programme are hosting a Patient Summit on the 1st November, and need your help to spread the invitation to service users.

Please can you display the attached poster in your optometric practices and invite people during appointments.

All details can be read here: [NHS England - South West Eyecare Patient Summit, Tue 1 Nov 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Please note that we are unable to extend the invite to professionals. Feedback from our patient representatives is that people feel safer sharing their stories to a group of their peers rather than a group of professionals.

We will share the themes and agreed actions following the event with you.

Thank you in advance for your help

The SW Eyecare Transformation Team



Patient Summit
Poster v1 (approved t

NHS Email Accounts

If you require either a Generic or Personal NHS email account, you can contact the NHS Business Services Authority to request this.

Please follow the link below and this will show you the steps of how to apply for an account.

- <https://forms.office.com/r/SzaDjwpZxM>

Email Correspondence – Signature Details

Please can you ensure when communicating with the South West Optometry Team you include the following details within your correspondence to help us with responding to your enquiry - Contact Name, Name of Contractor, ODS code. Thank you.

Useful Information

NHS England – South West Region Optometry Contract Management Team

Team Member	Telephone	Email Address
Michele Toy	07568 431890	england.optometrysouthwest@nhs.net
Sarah Lillington	07920 834445	
Kath Hughes	07730 374739	
Louise Norman	07730 379362	
Lesley St Leger	07730 381871	

Website

Please see our website for more information and any blank templates, forms and documents [here](#)

Primary Care Support England (PCSE)

PCSE has the responsibility for the delivery of NHS England primary care support services.

For Opticians PCSE provides:

- [Ophthalmic Payments](#) - Administrating monthly payments of GOS forms, processing Continuing Education and Training (CET) payments, deducting local Optical Committee levies.
- [Performers List](#) - Administering entry and changes to Performers Lists on behalf of NHS England
- [Supplies](#) - Providing NHS stationery, pre-printed forms, needles and syringes via PCSE Online.

Contact details for PCSE

- If you have an ophthalmic payment queries you need to contact PCSE via the online contact form by using the following link: <https://pcse.england.nhs.uk/contact-us/>
- GOS4 Pre-authorization (for adults): Nhsbsa.paos@nhs.net
- Contract management queries: nhsbsa.pao-contractadmin@nhs.net
- NHS Mail/any other contractor queries: Nhsbsa.paos-support@nhs.net