

Retinoblastoma

What is retinoblastoma?

- Retinoblastoma is a very rare tumour of the retina. This can cause damage in and around the eye, and to other parts of the body.
- Retinoblastoma may also cause a squint, red eye and blurred vision.
- Most children with retinoblastoma in only one eye usually have good vision in the other. When both eyes are affected, the child is much more likely to have blurred vision.
- Most children with retinoblastoma maintain good vision. However, a small number can develop significant sight loss.

What can help?

- Wear glasses, if prescribed, and keep them clean
- Wear a peaked cap and/or dark glasses to help control glare
- Recognising facial expressions can often be difficult. It is worth trying to find out at what distance facial expressions can be seen and responded to. Then always try to talk and smile from within this distance. This helps a child to learn what facial expressions mean and to copy them.
- Check with the specialist teacher (QTVI) about the most appropriate size of font for the pupil. Avoid books with poorly produced print illustrations
- A Qualified Teacher of the Vision Impaired (QTVI) from the EA Sensory Service will assess the child's functional vision within the school environment and provide advice to the school on specific strategies for curriculum access and independent learning.