

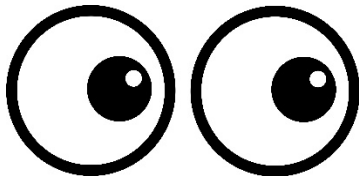
1. What part of the body does an orthoptist specialise in?  
*Eyes*
2. What does AHP stand for?  
*Allied Health Professional*
3. What sort of conditions do orthoptists treat?  
*amblyopia [lazy eye], strabismus, squints, double vision, eye movement problems* How do prisms help patients?
4. How do prisms help patients?  
*They redirect the light so that the eyes can both look forward to reduce double vision*
5. What GCSE grades do you need to become an orthoptist?  
*5 GCSEs 4-9 including maths English and science*
6. What A-levels do you need to become an orthoptist?  
*BBB including a science*
7. What is the difference between an orthoptist and an optician?  
*An optometrist works on the high street assessing vision. An orthoptist works on eye muscle disorders*
8. What percentage of graduates get to go straight into their field?  
*90%*
9. Where does an orthoptist work?  
*Hospitals, clinics, schools, developmental units, home visits*

### What is an orthoptist?

- Not an Optician
- Diagnose and treat problems affecting the eyes – how they develop, the muscles, how the brain controls them, and how they work together
- Help people who've had a stroke, or people who have trouble communicating
- Prescribe patches, eye exercises, prisms and glasses
- Screen children's eyes in school to catch problems early
- An Allied Health Professional

### Benefits of being an orthoptist

- Employability – 90% of orthoptic graduates end up working in their field
- Choose from jobs in the NHS and private practices
- Work core daytime hours
- Can work overseas
- Lots of chances to specialise in areas that interest you



### Useful Links

- [stepintothenhhs.nhs.uk/work-experience](http://stepintothenhhs.nhs.uk/work-experience)
- [nhsbsa.nhs.uk/new-student-funding](http://nhsbsa.nhs.uk/new-student-funding)
- [healthcareers.nhs.uk/orthoptist](http://healthcareers.nhs.uk/orthoptist)
- [iseethedifference.co.uk/orthoptics/](http://iseethedifference.co.uk/orthoptics/)
- [orthoptics.org.uk/](http://orthoptics.org.uk/)

### How to become an orthoptist:

3 years at the University of Liverpool or the University of Sheffield

- GCSEs – 5 grades including maths, English and science (4-9)
- A-Levels – one science (biology, chemistry, physics, maths)
- BTEC – Applied science
- Work experience in a healthcare role, preferably an orthoptics department