

Support through your child's diagnosis, and beyond



Finding your way

The day your child is diagnosed with a vision impairment is not an easy one. But it's also the day Guide Dogs' support starts. And it never stops.

We're here for you from the moment of diagnosis. To talk and to listen, to offer advice and provide support.

Our team of experts has many years of experience of working with children and their families. They take the time to understand what you're going through and can introduce you to a range of services based on your child's needs.

Right away, we can:

- help you understand your child's sight condition and some of the terms you may hear from both medical and other professionals
- provide emotional and practical support to help you through diagnosis
- invite you to join our online parent groups, and our family weekends and events, where you can meet other families, hear from relevant specialists, and chat with our experts about the services we offer
- work with you to ensure your child is linked to your local authority vision impairment education service, and point you towards other organisations that could offer support.

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Calling Guide Dogs opened up a whole new world for us. I don't think we would be where we are today if it wasn't for them.

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Parent of a young service-user

Together, we can help your child learn, play and achieve their potential.



We don't just help you with your child's diagnosis. Our support is lifelong.

In the longer term, we can:

- help your child develop vital movement and orientation skills, and nurture their independence
- ensure that you develop the skills you need to support your child's early development, both physically and socially
- support your research into your child's future education – helping you to find a nursery, school or college that's right for them, and has everything they need to reach their full potential when they get there
- give you information about grants for adaptive technology and sensory equipment that can help your child learn and develop
- help you access tailor-made large-print books through our CustomEyes Books service.

**We work with
parents, carers
and professionals to
support children and
young people with
a vision impairment
from 0–25.**

We're here for you whenever you need us.

Guide Dogs has a range of services and resources,
especially for children, young people and their families.



0800 781 1444
children@guidedogs.org.uk
guidedogs.org.uk/familysupport