

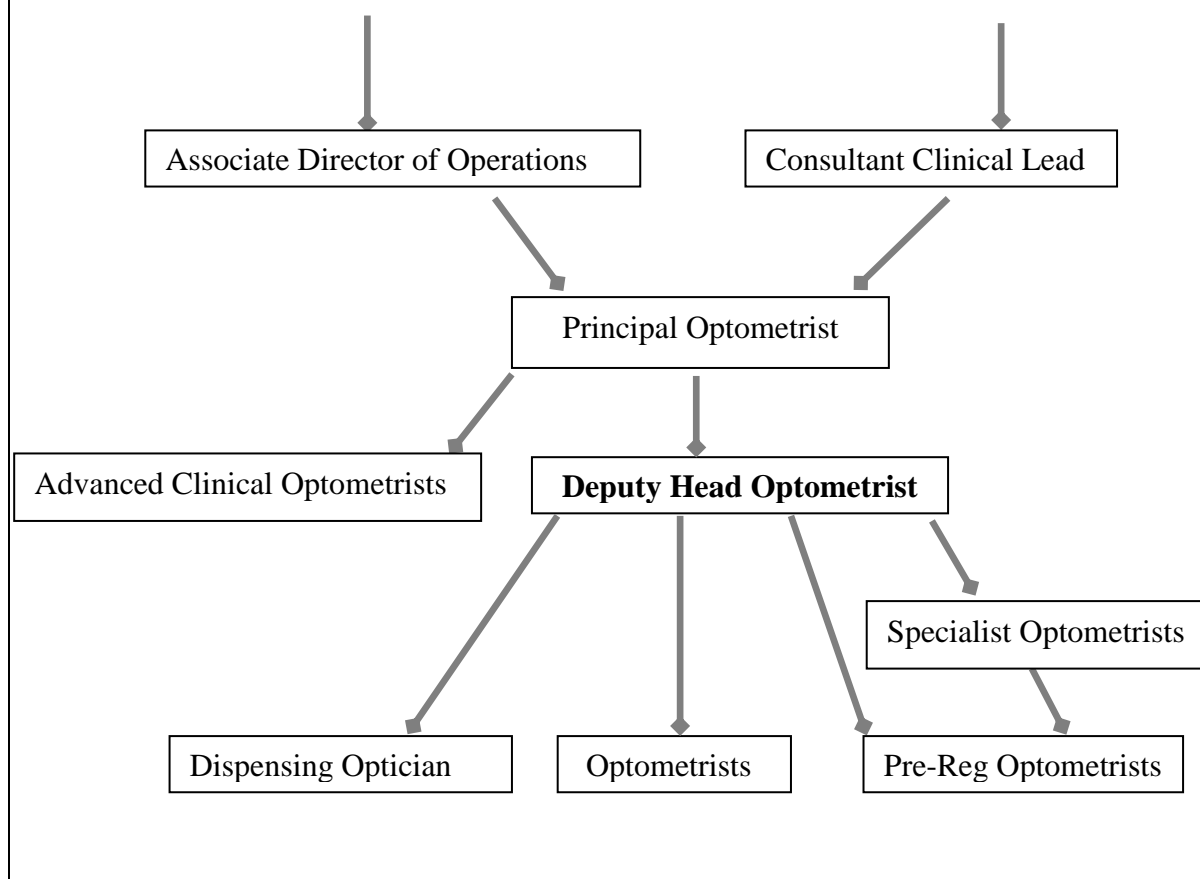
### Job Description

Job Ref:	22-079
Job Title:	Optometrist
AfC Pay Band:	Band 6
Number of hours:	37.5 full or part time
Clinical Unit / Division	DAS
Department:	Ophthalmology
Location:	East Sussex Healthcare Trust – various sites
Accountable to:	Principal Optometrist
Reports to:	Principal Optometrist

Job dimensions & responsibility for resources	
Budgetary & Purchasing, Income generation	<p>Budget / Delegated Budget managed : N/A</p> <p>Authorised signatory for: N/A</p> <p>Other financial responsibility: Careful use of Trust resources. Constant use of expensive, highly specialised equipment</p>
Staff	<p>Staff (wte): Post holder will be required to support and train pre-registration optometrists and any other students on placement in the hospital.</p>
Information Systems	<p>Careful use of Trust systems both manual and electronic, to ensure accuracy of data. Store and share information in accordance with department protocols, Trust Information Governance Policy and Data Protection Legislation</p> <p>Specialist systems: Medisoft / medisite, Cirrus OCT review, Forum</p>

Job purpose	<p>To support a range of Specialist Optometry services within East Sussex Healthcare Trust to the highest standards of quality and care to ophthalmology patients and to patients from other specialities, and to provide expert optometric advice.</p> <p>To provide specialist assessment, diagnosis and management of patients with optometric disorders and to develop and implement effective treatment plans.</p> <p>To participate in, and help develop the optometry department's role in co-managed care to reduce pressure on Consultant Ophthalmologist's clinics to meet the changing needs of the Ophthalmology Department.</p>
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### Department Structure



<b>Communications and Working Relationships</b>		
With Whom:	Frequency	Purpose
Patients	Daily	To examine, treat, provide care plans etc
Manager	As required	Support etc
Professional colleagues	Daily / as required	Inter professional dialogue to enhance patient care, shared care
Consultant Ophthalmologists	Weekly / as required	Referral for consultant treatment. Provide specialist Optometric opinions
Receptionist	Daily	Appointments etc
General Medical Practitioners	As required	To inform about their patients
Medical Secretaries	Daily / as required	Clerical support
Suppliers	As required	Ordering patient appliances
Social Services / local patient support groups / voluntary organisations	As required	Cross-referral of patients for enhanced holistic care

### **Key duties and responsibilities**

To provide high quality specialist optometry services in the following areas:

Refraction - diagnostic and therapeutic refraction mainly of children and infants. Prescription of appropriate optical aids to maximise vision, and advice on their use.

Medical Contact Lenses – managing the highly specialised assessment, fitting and aftercare of patients with complex corneal and refractive pathologies. Assessment and correction of contact lens related problems and pathology. Organising the efficient ordering and delivery of contact lenses for patients.

Visual Impairment Rehabilitation – assessment, prescription and dispensing of complex, telescopic magnifying aids, electronic devices, to provide guidance on illumination, non-optical aids to vision and advice on visual impairment registration.

County-wide liaison with Social Services and voluntary groups for cross-referral.

Orthoptic/Optomery Shared Care Clinic – for babies and children to provide full co-managed care, and specialist paediatric assessment and advice so that referral to consultant is only undertaken when medical or surgical intervention is required.

Co-managed Ophthalmology / Optometry clinics, - to help develop services which will include AMD, Glaucoma and post operative clinics in liaison with the Consultant Ophthalmologists and the Principal Optometrist to reduce pressure on the Ophthalmologist's clinics.

The post holder will work as an autonomous practitioner, liaising with the Principal optometrist where necessary. The role will primarily encompass paediatric and complex adult refraction, specialist therapeutic contact lens fitting and aftercare and low vision rehabilitation clinics at Conquest hospital (Hastings) & Eastbourne hospitals or in community clinics. There will also be opportunities for participation in extended role clinics including AMD, stable glaucoma monitoring and post operative cataract clinics, where an increased level of responsibility for overall patient care is necessary.

Independent clinical decision – making and provision of specialised advice including the breaking of bad or unwelcome news to patients is required. You may be required to examine very young children and patients with special needs who may have significant barriers to understanding on a regular basis. Patient management will require interpretation of clinical signs and symptoms which may be highly complex, sensitive, contentious or unpredictable. Significant hand/eye co-ordination, dexterity and speed will be required.

Use of Goldmann applanation tonometer, pachymeter, corneal topographer/keratometer and other imaging devices, e.g Ocular coherence Tomographer (OCT), Ocular biometry (A-scan )

Spectacle dispensing, including paediatric and complex prescriptions.

Other duties include:

Advising medical, orthoptic and nursing staff on the relevance of optometric examinations.

To personally participate in continuing professional education and training (CET) as required by the General Optical Council and in continuing professional development, in order to maintain professional standards using advanced theoretical and practical specialist knowledge acquired over a significant period.

To partake in audit of optometry services as and when required.

### General Duties & Responsibilities applicable to all job descriptions

- To be familiar with and adhere to the policies and procedures of the Trust.
- Behave and act at all times in accordance with the Trust Values, of Working Together, Respect and Compassion, Engagement and Involvement and Improvement and Development
- To achieve and demonstrate agreed standards of personal and professional development within agreed timescales.
- To participate fully in the performance and development review (appraisal) process and undertake Continuing Professional Development as required.
- To participate in surveys and audits as necessary in order to enable the Trust to meet its statutory requirements.
- To be aware of the Trust's emergency planning processes and follow such processes as necessary, in the event of an unexpected incident.
- This job description is not exhaustive. Staff may be required to undertake any other duties at the request of the line manager, which are commensurate with the band, including project work, internal job rotation and absence cover.

### Working Environment:

Pressurised clinical situations requiring prolonged and frequent concentration and dexterity, often working in restricted position/posture.

Constant use of expensive, highly specialised equipment.

Working in semi-darkness.

Very close contact with patients with poor hygiene.

Contact with patient's tear film, which may be infected.

Examining young children with head lice, childhood illnesses etc.

Use of certain harmful chemicals: e.g. sodium hyperchlorite, hydrogen peroxide.

Handling and moving of wheelchair bound patients.

Driving		Lifting		Verbal aggression	
Use of PC/VDU	<b>X</b>	Physical support of patients		Physical aggression	
Bending/kneeling		Outdoor working		Breaking unwelcome news to others	<b>X</b>
Pushing/pulling		Lone working		Providing <b>professional</b> emotional support	
Climbing/heights		Chemicals/fumes		Dealing with traumatic situations	
Repetitive movement		Contact with bodily fluids	<b>X</b>	Involvement with abuse cases	
Prolonged walking/running		Infectious materials		Care of the terminally ill	

Controlled restraint		Noise/smells	X	Care of mentally ill & challenging patients	
Manual labour		Waste/dirt		Long periods of concentration i.e. hours	X
Food handling		Night working		Working in confined spaces (eg roof spaces)	

### Statement

1. This job description will be agreed between the jobholder and the manager to whom he/she is accountable. It may be reviewed in light of experience, changes and developments.
2. The information being handled by employees of East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust is strictly confidential. Failure to respect the confidential nature of this information will be regarded as a serious breach of regulations, which will result in action under the Disciplinary Procedure, including possible dismissal. This includes holding discussions with colleagues concerning patients in situations where the conversation may be overheard. It is the employee's personal responsibility to comply with the Data Protection Act.
3. It is the employee's responsibility to ensure all records (computerised or manual) are accurate and up to date, and that errors are corrected or notified as appropriate.
4. It is the manager's role to monitor and assure the quality of any data collected or recorded by or in his/her area of responsibility.
5. Employees must take reasonable care, and be aware of the responsibilities placed on them under the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act (1974) and to ensure that agreed safety procedures are carried out to maintain a safe environment for employees, patients and visitors.
6. All staff have a responsibility to ensure that infection control policies, procedures and guidelines are adhered to, in addition to supporting the trusts commitment to preventing and controlling healthcare associated infections (HAI).
7. All members of staff must be aware of their responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
8. In addition to any specific responsibility for risk management outlined in the main body of this job description, all employees must ensure they are aware of the key responsibilities applicable in relation to risk management as identified in the Trust's Risk Management Strategy.
9. All staff will note the Trust's responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, and NHS Major Incident Plans Guidance (DoH 1998 and 2004)
10. All employees are responsible for ensuring they attend the relevant mandatory training as identified in the Trust's Education Strategy and as agreed with their manager/supervisor.
11. It is the employee's responsibility to ensure they follow the latest version of all policies and procedures which apply to them.
12. For posts which involve contact with patients, it is required that the postholder receives satisfactory clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service.



## East Sussex Healthcare

NHS Trust

Job Title: Optometrist		Grade: Band 6	
Department: Optometry/Ophthalmology		Date: March 2022	
*Assessed by: A= Application I= Interview R= References T= Testing C = Certificate			
<b>Minimum Criteria</b>	*	<b>Desirable Criteria</b>	*
<b>Qualifications</b>			
BSc Hons Optometry or equivalent /or MSc Optometry	AI	2.1 or better	AI
GOC registered as qualified optometrist	AI	Member of the College of Optometrists	AI
Receptive to further training and development of specialist clinical areas	AI	Evidence of commitment to CET and development of professional skills	AI
Evidence of continued professional development to post graduate diploma level or equivalent level of knowledge and experience	AI		
<b>Experience</b>			
Clinical experience in complex refractions, paediatrics, specialist contact lenses, low vision rehabilitation and imaging techniques	AI	Hospital pre-registration and/or HES sessional experience	AI
To be able to work under pressure in a busy environment with time constraints	AI	Experience working with children and adults with complex requirements	AI
Knowledge of relevant evidence-based clinical optometric practice	AI	Experience of teaching and clinical demonstration / observation	AI
Actively involved in CPD	AI	Interest in clinical research & audit	AI
Ability to analyse complex data and problem solve	AI	Experience of working in a multi-professional team	AI
Adheres to Trust/department clinical guidelines/protocols	AI		
<b>Skills / Knowledge / Abilities</b>			
Excellent interpersonal skills	AI	Previous experience of working in or observing specialist optometric clinics	AI
Maintains a professional manner	AI		

Good organisational skills	AI	IT skills, Microsoft Office, Excel	AI
Sensitive to an individual's needs	AI	Experience of working with databases, electronic records	AI
Willing to seek advice from colleagues	AI		
Ability to adapt and work flexibly to suit the needs of the service	AI	Good presentation skills for teaching purposes	AI
Excellent clinical skills including competent use of highly complex equipment.	AI		
Be capable of managing complex cases independently.	AI		
Ability to implement and support new initiatives	AI		
Ability to cope effectively under pressure whilst delivering results	AI		
Demonstrate ability to work effectively as a team member assisting colleagues and those whom you supervise to deliver objectives.	AI		
Ability to express information in a clear, concise and understandable way both verbally and in writing.	AI		
Demonstrate awareness of audit and quality issues.	AI		
<b>Other</b>			
Reliable work record	AIR		
DBS clearance	T		
Ability to travel cross site in an efficient and timely manner	AI		
Evidence that personal behaviour reflects Trust Values	AIR		



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Managers Signature

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Date

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Postholder's signature

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Date