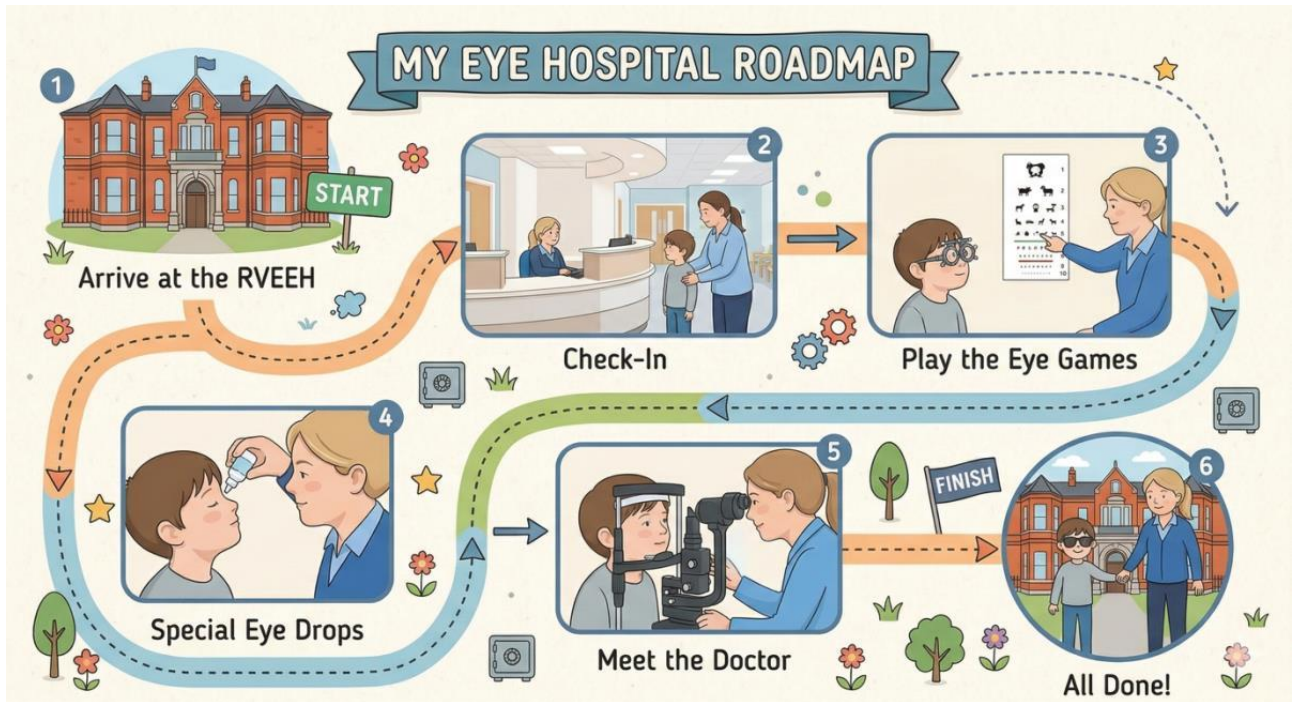


My Visit to the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital

A social story is a tool to help us understand new places and know what to expect. This story is all about visiting the RVEEH in Dublin for an eye check-up.



1. The Building

Today, I am going to a special place called the **Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital**. When I arrive, I will see a very large, old brick building with big windows and a grand entrance. It might be busy with cars and people walking outside. This is where I am going to make sure my eyes are healthy and strong.



2. Checking In

First, we walk inside. The inside of the hospital is bright and clean. We go to the **Registration Desk**. The person working there will smile and ask for my name. My grown-up will talk to them. While they talk, I will wait nicely and stay with my grown-up. We might sit in a chair while we wait for my name to be called.



3. The Vision Game

When it is my turn, a special eye teacher (called an Orthoptist) will call my name. We will go to a small, quiet room. They will ask me to play some games to test how well I see. I might look at a chart with **pictures or letters** (the Snellen chart) on the wall. I might also wear funny, heavy glasses that let the teacher change the lenses. This is how they find the perfect lens for my eyes. It does not hurt.



4. Special Eye Drops

Sometimes, to see deep inside my eyes, the teacher needs to use **special eye drops**. I will lean my head back and look up at the ceiling. A grown-up will help me hold very still. The drop might feel cold, and it might sting just for a tiny second (like a quick tickle). Then, it is all done. My vision might get blurry, and the lights might seem very bright. **This is okay**. This is how we know the medicine is working.



5. Waiting for the Doctor

After my eye drops, I will go back to the waiting area. This is a quiet room with chairs where I can sit with my grown-up. We wait here while the drops start to work. My eyes might feel a little blurry — **this is okay and normal**. The nurse will call my name when it is time to go in and see the doctor. I can bring something to hold or look at while I wait.



6. The Big Microscope (Slit Lamp)

Next, I will meet the **Ophthalmologist** (the eye doctor). They use a special camera/microscope called a **Slit Lamp**. This machine looks big. It has a soft place for me to rest my **chin** and my **forehead**. I must hold very still, like a statue. The doctor will shine a bright light into my eyes. This lets them see pictures of the inside of my eye. It only takes a minute! I did a great job staying still.



7. Time to Go Home

Now I am all done! The doctor talks to my grown-up. They are happy because I was a brave helper. My eyes might still feel a little sensitive to the light because of the drops. That is okay. I can wear my **sunglasses** outside. They make me look cool and protect my eyes while the blurry feeling goes away. Now I can leave the hospital and go do something fun. I did a great job at the eye hospital!

