

Royal Dutch Visio
Centre of Expertise for blind and
partially sighted people

Visio 



New possibilities for everyone

Each year, thousands of people in the Netherlands become permanently visually impaired or blind. If you are visually impaired or completely blind, or someone in your immediate surroundings, then this will have a drastic effect on daily living, work, recreation, education, upbringing and mobility. Royal Dutch Visio offers support in all these areas. Our services are for children and adults who are visually impaired or blind, and for people who have other disabilities, in addition to visual ones. With competence and devotion we guide our clients and students to become as independent as possible. People who are personally or professionally involved with someone who has a visual impairment, can also turn to us for advice, support and expertise in this area. Our service focuses on your needs and together we look for the best solution.



Our method

What kind of care and how much?

Visio comes into view when eye glasses no longer help and ophthalmic treatment is not possible. Your wishes and needs are the starting points for our services. In consultation with you, we decide what your needs are. After drafting a care or counselling plan, we record all the decisions in a care and service agreement.

Rehabilitation due to visual impairment is included in the basic healthcare insurance package. Healthcare insurance also imposes a mandatory excess. This does not apply to children under the age of 18. You need a referral from your ophthalmologist or from another medical specialist.

Care during your stay at Visio is financed by the Long-term Care Act (Dutch: Wlz). Visio can assist you in applying to the Care Needs Assessment Centre (Dutch: CIZ) for the necessary Wlz allowance. You can turn to Visio even if you are being treated elsewhere. We try to collaborate with other healthcare providers in the best way possible.

The Social Support and Provision Act/Youth Law (Dutch: Wmo/Jeugdwet) is applicable if you turn to Visio for daily activities and/or a short-term stay (overnight lodging). Visio can assist you with applying to your municipality for receiving this form of care.

Visio has a regulation for complaints and confidentiality. You will find more information about this at www.visio.org. Visio attaches great importance to your input as a client. That is why Visio has client boards and representative advisory bodies.

For children, adolescents and their parents

Learning through play and discovering the world: a visually impaired or blind child might need extra help from early on to understand the surrounding world. Visio supports you and your child in developing all sorts of skills that a child needs. We provide advice, information and guidance to parents. For example in choosing appropriate toys, the best way to communicate or with everyday activities, such as dressing and undressing.

Going to school

Thanks to the guidance provided by Visio, 60% of children with a visual impairment attend regular schools.

In addition, Visio has six schools for special education. Apart from math, language or history, these schools put special emphasis on the social-emotional skills and sensory development of children and adolescents. Other areas that are handled are daily living, work and leisure activities.

“Tim is a cheerful boy who attends the Visio school in Huizen. A Visio play therapist comes to the school occasionally to play with him and by now he has obtained his swimming certificate. Visio also involves us in this. Everything is mutually consulted; if we have any doubts, then Visio comes to our help. Ultimately, we are the ones who make the decisions, but Visio carefully monitors the results.”

Marlous van Grieken, mother of Tim (9)



For adults

Continuing to read your newspaper

Many people develop bad eyesight at a later age and this requires many adjustments. Visio examines this field and helps you in finding the right visual aids, including reading, watching TV and carrying out your daily chores, such as making coffee or matching clothing. Visio also offers support in coping with the emotional side of deteriorating vision. Our staff members guide you with devotion and competence at the various Visio locations, at your home or at work. Together we search for the best form of rehabilitation.

“Five years ago my life changed drastically. As a result of diabetes, my eyesight deteriorated. The ophthalmologist put me in contact with Visio. Visio offered me day rehabilitation, training in aid resources, contact with other eye patients and after I moved, assistance with arranging my new home. The initial step to turn to Visio was a difficult one, but once I took it, I did not look back.”

Thea van de Laar (55)

For people with a visual impairment plus other disabilities

To stimulate development

At least 25% of all people with a mental disability also suffer from a visual impairment. This type of combination in particular demands special expertise in order to stimulate children, to offer them appropriate education, and to counsel adults. Based on their expertise and involvement, Visio staff members are able to find solutions to problems that are often quite complex. We look for options that will allow our clients to live as normally as possible, with adaptations where necessary. Visio is a leading organisation when it comes to intensive cooperation between education, daytime activities, living and staying overnight.

“Initially, we overall chose for neutral colours, like in a baby’s room: cosy and subtle. However, these did not stimulate the children to look around. Upon the advice of Visio, the baby changing mats now have bright blue covers and lemon-green towels. The wall tiles have black and white patterns, and a shiny plastic crunch bag hangs on the wall.”

Group counsellor Evelien van den Berg of the Dol-fijn Children Day Care Centre in Velp

For professionals

Optimal conditions

If you are a professional who works with visually impaired people, you can turn to Visio. We provide advice, information and customised courses to physicians, social workers trainees, employees who work in institutes that are responsible for education, care and nursing. We also work with directors, architects, construction engineers and building experts. In these areas we cover subjects such as dealing and communicating with people who have a visual impairment, adapting the work or living environment with regard to lighting and available aid resources.

Information and registration

Do you need more information or are you interested in Visio services? Visit www.visio.org or call our client service line: **+31 (0)88 585 85 85**.

For extensive questions and for information about our aid resources or play materials, you can make an appointment at one of our locations. Or visit us during our open consultation hours. We will be pleased to assist you further.

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