

Vision Express tops optometry poll

National Optical retailer named preferred employer

In an independent survey of optometrists led by expert optical forum, theOptom.com, Vision Express has been named the multiple optical professionals would most like to work for.

Vision Express came out top against Specsavers (26%), Boots Opticians (4%), Optical Express (2%), Scrivens Opticians (9%) and supermarket chain brands (9%). 47% of those surveyed, chose the Nottingham-head quartered company over its rivals.

Commenting on the results, Vision Express HR Director Kate Clayton said: "At Vision Express we are passionate about our people, so it's great to have been recognised in this way. Our teams work hard to set a high standard within the optical industry and we in turn take great care in each of our employee's career development."

With nearly 400 stores nationwide and a workforce of over 4,000 people, Vision Express is committed to staff development and training.

In May this year it announced its charity project - partnerships with six eye health related charities. These collaborations have paved the way for specialist training of Vision Express optometrists in how to detect, manage and advise customers who present any symptoms of each of the conditions. These include a rare eye cancer called Retinoblastoma, Alzheimer's, Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD), Glaucoma and risk of Stroke.

Every year Vision Express recruits at a grass-roots level for its 13-month employee-embedded apprenticeship scheme. Each apprentice successfully completing the scheme is offered a full time permanent post as an optical assistant within Vision Express. They complete their studies being qualified with a Level 2, Intermediate Apprenticeship in Health (Optical Retail), which is equivalent to five GCSEs.

As a member of the 5% Club, Vision Express has also pledged to have 5% of its UK workforce comprising young people on structured training schemes over the next five years.

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Notes to editors:

Vision Express is the third largest optical retailer in the UK and part of [GrandVision](#), the global leader in optical retail operating across 43 countries, spanning over 5,800 stores and online.

With more than 390 stores nationwide, Vision Express first opened its doors in Newcastle in 1988. Built on a passion for the profession, it has gone from strength to strength, driven by a commitment to unparalleled customer service and providing the best individual optical care, the right product and great value. Customers can select from a vast range of genuine designer brands and the latest technology lenses, through to complete glasses from £39.

Vision Express is considered one of the leading and most trusted opticians in the UK and Ireland, with its European offering supported through sister eye care brands Grand Optical, Solaris and Generale D'Optique.

With around 4,000 employees, Vision Express makes a significant difference to the communities it operates within, and the organisations it chooses to support. As part of its commitment to [Vision Taken Seriously](#), and as a responsible and caring retailer, Vision Express is proud to partner with a range of healthcare charities, which have touched the lives of customers and teams. These companies provide vital support to people affected by vision-related conditions. They are part of the [Vision Express Charity Project](#) and include:

- Alzheimer's Research UK
- Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT)
- International Glaucoma Association
- Macular Society
- Stroke Association
- Temple Street University Hospital, Ireland