deaf preschool children and group A school pupils in Scotland by classification* of eyesight issues indicated in survey returns 2000/01 (n=258)

- not VI: 154 (60%)
- possibly VI: 31 (12%)
- likely to be VI: 49 (19%)
- definitely VI: 24 (9%)

*Classified by Dr Andrew Blaikie, Opthalmology Research Fellow, Scottish Sensory Centre.
Coding System for VI Classification

As suggested by Andrew Blaikie
(Ophthalmology Research Fellow, Scottish Sensory Centre)

**Not VI**
No suggestion that the child should be VI although can’t say for **absolute** certainty. Most common category is ‘wears glasses’.

**Possibly VI**
Condition predisposes to VI, but not enough information to be sure that it is bilateral (eg ‘cataracts’ – this would only be classed as VI if bilateral).

**Likely to be VI**
Condition usually leaves child with some form of bilateral uncorrectable visual difficulty. Most brain conditions included here (eg cerebral palsy [expect 70% have VI] and Downs Syndrome [some argue 90-100% have VI])

**Definitely VI**
Description of visual difficulty and condition makes VI a certainty

*Rule of thumb:* VI=6/18 or less (fourth line from bottom of Snellen Chart)