

Large kids issues

Bent Hook

A bent hook is an indication that there is too much torsional stress on the mast. The hook is fairly tough steel and indicates a strong forward lean on the orthotic. The alignment of the child is not upright as we would like to see in stance or gait. To correct this we can do two things:

First look at the feet. They are likely behind the child's center of gravity. We need to use the front cords to encourage more weight bearing and better foot positioning. Using the front cords may make moving more difficult. A normal setting on the front cords is to allow the foot a few inches posterior movement in stance. This accommodates a slight forward lean needed to initiate gait.

The second adjustment is at the chest. If the chest is significantly in front of the hips you can adjust the chest straps. Loosen the posterior strap and tighten the one on the anterior to obtain a more upright stance. You may also need to use the safety strap on the mast to help with upright positioning.