Sagittal synostosis

Sagittal synostosis is the most common form of single suture synostosis. It results in a long, narrow head (scaphocephaly) with bossing of the forehead and (often) an occipital “bullet.”

The fused sagittal suture may be visible and palpable as a midline ridge. Sagittal synostosis occurs in approximately 1 in 5000 births with a male to female ratio of 3:1.

Surgery, if indicated, is usually carried out, following a thorough multidisciplinary assessment, between around 4 to 9 months of age.

The aims of the surgery are threefold;
1. Correct the existing deformity
2. Prevent the deformity from progressing and becoming worse
3. To reduce the risk of raised intracranial pressure

Following the surgery, children are followed up until they reach skeletal maturity as outlined in our management protocol for single suture synostosis.
Sagittal synostosis before surgery
Sagittal synostosis after surgery