

In Prison



What to expect if your son/daughter with a learning disability has to go to prison

Serena Brady & Glynis Murphy

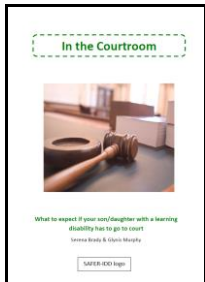
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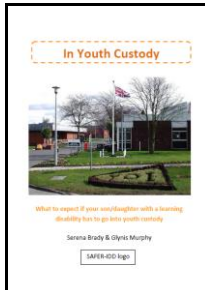
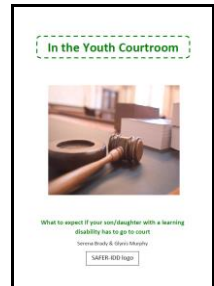
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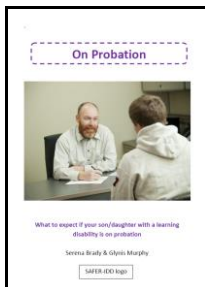
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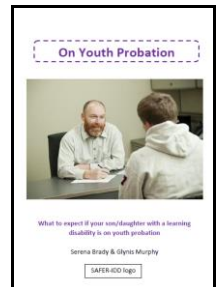
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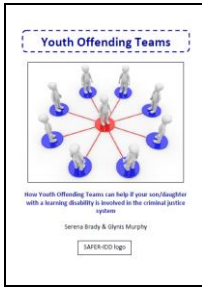
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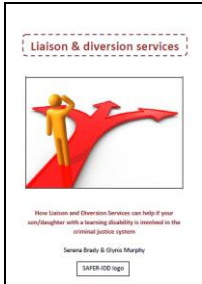
Information on what happens during probation / youth probation.





“Youth Offending Teams”

Information on what Youth Offending Teams are and what they do.



“Liaison & Diversion Services”

Information on what Liaison & Diversion Services are and what they do

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What is this booklet about?

This booklet is for anyone who has an **adult** son/daughter with a **learning** or **developmental disability** or **autism** who has been **convicted** of a **crime** and **sentenced** to **prison**, or is **remanded in prison**. It will give you information about what happens in prison, how you can keep in touch with your son/daughter, what will happen when they are released, and how you can help them.

This booklet does not give you information on **youth custody** (for anyone **under 18**), what happens during a **police arrest**, in **court**, or detailed information about **probation**. Other booklets in the series (see page 1) provide more information about these aspects of the **criminal justice system**. There are also booklets on **Liaison & Diversion Services**, and **Youth Offending Teams**.

How to use this booklet

You can use the sections in this booklet when you need to, it might be helpful to read specific sections when they are most relevant. There is a list of useful terms and an index at the back which will help you to find information. Any words that are **red** are explained in the 'useful terms' and are also in the index.

Prisoners on remand

If your son/daughter has not been convicted and is remanded in prison **awaiting their trial**, there will be differences in how they are treated in prison. This is because they are considered to be innocent unless they are convicted, so they are allowed more privileges and have fewer restrictions than convicted prisoners. Throughout this booklet, any writing that is **blue** and/or in a separate box gives information about differences for prisoners who are on remand waiting for their trial. If your son/daughter has been remanded after being convicted while they wait to be sentenced, they will be treated in the same way as sentenced prisoners.

If your son/daughter is aged 18-21 years

If your son/daughter is aged **between 18 and 21 years** they can still be sent to prison, but they will be placed in a **youth offender institute (YOI)**. These are run in a similar way to adult prisons, and may be on the same site as an adult prison (but adult prisoners and youth prisoners will not mix). The information in this booklet is relevant to both adult prisons and YOIs, and **wherever the word 'prison' is written, it means a prison or a YOI** (unless stated otherwise). If your son/daughter is **under 18** they will be treated differently. The youth custody booklet gives you information on custody if your son/daughter is under 18 (see page 1).

People you might meet

Chaplain

Someone who works in a prison and helps prisoners to practice their religion. They will be from lots of different religions. They can also give prisoners help and advice even if they are not from the same religion or do not practice religion at all.

Disability liaison officer

A disability liaison officer works in a prison and provides help to prisoners with disabilities. This could be by listening to the prisoner, by making sure all their needs are met, helping them take part in activities, talking to prison staff etc. See page 44

Education officer

This is someone who works in a prison and can give prisoners information about what education and training they will be able to do while they are in prison.

Healthcare staff

Every prison will have healthcare staff (e.g. nurses or doctors) who can look after the healthcare needs of prisoners. They also interview every prisoner when they arrive in prison – see page 19.

Independent district judge

An independent district judge runs adjudications (hearings) when a prisoner has broken the prison rules, and decides what consequences to give the prisoner. They are the only people who can give a prisoner extra days in prison as a consequence.

Liaison & diversion staff

Liaison and diversion services are there to help people who are involved in the criminal justice system and who might have a learning or developmental disability or mental health condition. Staff from the service might be involved with your son/daughter to do assessments. More information on liaison and diversion services is given on page 47.

Offender manager

An offender manager (also called probation officer) is someone who works in probation services and also works with prisoners in prison to develop their sentence plan. They also supervise prisoners when they are on licence in the community.

Offender supervisor

Offender supervisors work in prisons and work with prisoners on their sentence plan while they are in prison. This might be the same person as your son/daughter's personal officer.

Personal officer

Each prisoner is assigned to a specific type of prison officer called a personal officer. The personal officer can help the prisoners who are assigned to them and will make reports about their progress in prison.

Prison officer

Someone who works in prison to manage the prisoners.

Prison governor

The person who is in charge of the whole prison. May be called a director if it is a privately run prison.

Why prison?

There are four reasons your son/daughter may have been placed in prison:

1. They have been **convicted** of a crime and a **Judge** or **Magistrates** decided that they should go to prison as a **consequence** of committing the crime
2. They have been **convicted** of a crime but a Judge or Magistrates **haven't sentenced them yet**, and they have been **remanded to prison**
3. They have been **accused** of committing a crime, have pleaded not guilty, and are **waiting to have their trial**, but the Judge or Magistrates decided that they needed to be **remanded in prison** while they wait
4. They have been taken to prison as a **place of safety** under the **Mental Health Act** (see Court booklet for more information). If your son/daughter is in prison for this reason, they should be kept there no longer than 72 hours and should be assessed by a doctor/psychiatrist as soon as possible.

How long they will be in prison

The length of time your son/daughter will be in prison for depends on why they are there.

If they have been **remanded to prison** to wait for their trial

or to be sentenced for a crime, there is no set amount of time that they will be in prison for. This is because trials and sentencing can take a long time and involve many **hearings**. Your son/daughter **might** not be remanded in prison in between every hearing of a trial, but this will depend on whether the Judge or Magistrates think that they need to be remanded in prison. The Judge / Magistrates might think that your son/daughter needs to be remanded in prison for their own safety, for the safety of others, or to make sure that they don't commit more crimes and that they attend court.

If your son/daughter has been **convicted of a crime and sentenced to prison**, the amount of time they are there will depend on their sentence. They will have been given one of six types of prison sentence. These are:

1

Suspended: This means that your son/daughter was sentenced to prison but would only have had to go to prison if they broke rules set by the court within a certain time. For example, they might have been sentenced to two years in prison suspended for 18 months. Because they broke the rules within 18 months, they have to go to prison for two years (but will be released before this – see page 50)

2

Determinate: If your son/daughter has been given a determinate prison sentence the court will say exactly how long the sentence is for. They will then usually go to prison for half of the sentence and might be released earlier than this (see page 50).

3

Indeterminate: If your son/daughter is given an indeterminate sentence the court will say the minimum amount of time that they have to stay in prisons (called a **tariff**) before they can be considered for release. This is because they think the offender is a risk to the public. They may not be released after the end of their tariff if they are still a risk to the public.

4

Extended: Your son/daughter will have been given an extended sentence if they committed a serious violent or sexual crime. The Judge will have said how long their sentence is and they will have to spend at least two thirds of this time in prison before they can be considered for release. They might have to spend the whole time in prison if they are still a risk to the public.

5

Life: If your son/daughter committed a very serious crime, like murder, they will have been given a life sentence. They will have to spend a minimum amount

of time in prison (called a tariff) before they can be considered for release. This will usually be a minimum of 15 years. They might not be released after their tariff is finished if they are still a risk to the public.

6 **Whole life:** a whole life prison sentence is given for the most serious crimes and will mean that your son/daughter must spend the rest of their life in prison

Hospital orders

If your son/daughter was given a **hospital order** under section 37 the Mental Health Act they will not be sent to prison, but will instead be sent to a hospital. This is because two doctors/psychiatrists said that your son/daughter needs treatment for a mental health condition and should be in a hospital rather than a prison. This might be combined with a **restriction order** (section 41) which restricts when your son/daughter can be released from hospital. After they are released, they will **not** have to go to prison. See Court booklet (page 1) for more details.

If your son/daughter has already gone to prison (either on remand or because they were sentenced to prison), but two doctors/psychiatrists think that they need treatment at hospital for a serious mental health condition, they can be

transferred to hospital under **section 47** of the mental health act. They will then be kept in hospital for treatment and they cannot refuse to have treatment. They can be kept in hospital for six months to begin with, but this can be renewed. When they no longer need to be in hospital, they will be sent back to prison as long as their sentence/remand is not finished. If their sentence/remand is finished, they will be released in the same way as if they had been in prison (e.g. they might be put **on licence**, sentenced if they were on remand, or released).

Types of prison

Prisons can be classed as **open** or **closed** and will hold different types of prisoners depending on their **security category** (see below).

Open prisons are less strict as prisoners who are placed in open prisons are thought to be less risk to the public and unlikely to try to escape. Prisoners in open prisons may be allowed keys to their own cell and allowed to walk around the prison without many restrictions. They may also have more options for work or education as prisoners might be able to access this in the community, and prisoners might be given different types of **leave** from prison (see page 50).

Closed prisons are more strict than open prisons as they are for prisoners who are thought to be a risk to the public or likely to try to escape. There will be more restrictions on prisoners' movement within the prison, and they will be locked in their cell for parts of the day. There will be fewer options for work or education as prisoners won't be allowed to access this in the community, and it may be harder for them to get different types of leave.

Prisoner security categories

The type of prison that your son/daughter is placed in will

depend on what security category they are given. Security categories are determined based on how much of a risk the prisoner is to the public and whether they are likely to try to escape. The categories for **male prisoners aged over 21 years** are in the table below.

Category	Description	Type of prison
A.	This is the highest category and means that prison staff think your son might try to escape from prison or might hurt someone if he escaped from prison	Closed prison
B.	If your son is given this category it means that prison staff think he might try to escape, but that this risk is not serious enough for him to be a category A prisoner	
C.	This category means that prison staff don't think your son will try to escape but he is still too much of a risk to be put in an open prison	
D.	This category means that prison staff can trust your son to be in an open prison because they don't think he is likely to try to escape	Open prison

Categories for **female prisoners** and **prisoners who are aged 18-21** are slightly different and can be seen in the table below.

Category	Description	Type of prison
A.	This is the highest category and means that prison staff think your son/daughter might try to escape from prison/YOI or might hurt someone if they escaped	Closed prison
Restricted status	If your son/daughter is given this category it means that prison staff think they might try to escape, but that this risk is not serious enough for them to be a category A prisoner. Your son/daughter will be kept in a secure part of the prison/YOI	
Closed conditions	This category means that prison staff don't think your son/daughter will try to escape but that they are still too much of a risk to be put in an open prison/YOI	
Open conditions	This category means that prison staff can trust your son/daughter to be in an open prison/YOI because they don't think they are likely to try to escape	Open prison

Your son/daughter's security category will be reviewed regularly to make sure that they are still given the right category. If they are serving a long sentence their security category might change and they may be moved to an open prison towards the end of their sentence, if they are a low risk to the public. This is because being in an open prison can help prisoners to prepare to reintegrate into the community once they leave prison.

If your son/daughter has been sent to prison on remand, they will most likely to be placed in a Category B prison unless they are remanded for a very serious crime like rape or murder.

Prison location

The location of your son/daughter's prison will depend on their security category and where there is space.

They will be put in their local prison (usually a category B prison) at first, so that they can be given a security category, but they might be moved to another prison afterwards, especially if they are given a high security category.



If your son/daughter is given a high security category they are less likely to be placed close to home, as there are only 8 high security prisons in England and Wales. Additionally,

there are only a 12 prisons for women, so your daughter's prison might not be near to where she normally lives.

If your son/daughter is aged 18-21 they are also less likely to be placed close to home, as there are not as many YOIs as adult prisons in England and Wales.

If your son/daughter is placed far away from home, you might be able to get financial help to visit them (see page 42). Your son/daughter can also ask to be transferred to a prison that is closer to their family, however this might not be possible (if there is no prison that is the same security category closer to home), and even if it is possible it may take a long time. This is because they will have to wait until there is space at the prison they want to be transferred to.

Arriving in prison

When your son/daughter is sentenced to prison, they will be taken there straight from court. They will be unlikely to be allowed to see you before they are taken to prison, however they will be able to phone you when they arrive at prison. It is **VERY** important that your son/daughter has your phone number so they can let you know which prison they have been taken to.

If your son/daughter or their solicitor thinks they might be sentenced to prison, it can be useful to give your son/daughter a bag of things to take into their sentencing hearing with them that they can take to prison. This could include your address and phone number, some clothes, some money, some photographs, toiletries etc., but it is important to note that they might not be allowed to keep all of this with them in prison (see page 26).

Reception

When your son/daughter arrives in prison, they will be taken to reception.

They will be searched (this will be a **full body search** for male prisoners) to make sure they do not have anything they are not allowed.



The reception staff will make a note of the belongings they have with them. Many of their belongings will be taken and placed in secure storage while they are in prison because there are many things that prisoners are not allowed to keep with them in prison. They will be given their belongings back when they leave prison. There are some things they may be allowed to keep with them – see page 26.

They will be given new clothes to wear (**unless they are a prisoner on remand waiting for their trial as remand prisoners are allowed to wear their own clothes**). They will have to wear these clothes in prison at first, but may be able to wear their own clothes if they behave well – see page 38. Female prisoners **do not** have to wear prison clothing and will be allowed to wear their own clothes.

They will have their photograph and fingerprints taken and will be given a **prison number**.



They will be allowed to phone a relative to let them know where they are, and they will be given information about how to arrange for people to come and visit them. They will be able to have someone visit them within the first 3 days of being in prison (see page 42 for

more information about visiting).

Healthcare

A doctor or nurse from the healthcare team will speak to your son/daughter to make sure they know if your son/daughter has any medical or mental health conditions or disabilities. It is **VERY** important that your son/daughter tells prison staff about any medical / mental health conditions they have, and that they have a learning disability or autism. They will then be able to get any help that they need while in prison (see page 44). They can also ask to see a **disability liaison officer** who can help prisoners who have a disability.



Your son/daughter will **not** be allowed to keep any medication that they have brought to prison with them, but healthcare staff will make sure they get prescribed any medication they need and they **may** be allowed to keep this new medication with them in their cell. If they are not allowed to keep it with them, prison staff will keep it and make sure your son/daughter can have access to it when they need to take their medication.



Induction

Your son/daughter will be told everything they need to know

about being in prison – this is called **induction**. This might happen as soon as they are taken to prison, or it might be in the first few days after they arrive. Induction might be done by a **prison officer** or another prisoner.

Prison
officer

Your son/daughter should also receive written information about the prison rules and what happens in prison (called an **induction pack**). They may be able to have this information in an easier format to understand or on a CD if they need it. If they need help to read or understand the induction pack they can ask prison officers or other inmates to help them.

The first night

Your son/daughter may spend their first night in prison in a normal **cell**, on the **healthcare wing** (if they need to have medical assessments done) or in an **induction wing**.

Induction wings allow new prisoners to learn about the prison rules and what happens in prison before being placed in the main prison. They also allow prison staff to assess new prisoners, for example, in relation to their reading and writing skills so that they can help them get education or work while they're in prison.

Your son/daughter will also be able to have a bath or shower on their first night.

Sentence planning

When they first arrive in prison, your son/daughter will be assigned a **personal officer**. This is the person who will work with your son/daughter in prison to help them and may also work with them on their **sentence plan** (see below).

Personal
officer

Sentence planning

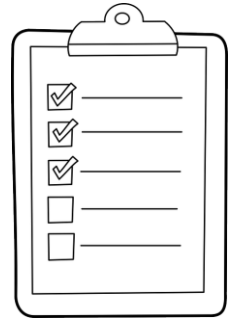
While your son/daughter is in prison they will work with their personal officer, an **offender supervisor** (who may be the same person as their personal officer) and an **offender manager** from community probation services to develop a sentence plan. This plan will be recorded on a computer system called the **offender assessment and sentence management system (OASys)**.

Offender
supervisor

Offender
manager

The sentence plan involves a range of assessments including risk assessments. These will look at how much of a risk to the public your son/daughter would be if they were released from prison and how to reduce this risk. The plan will also look at the factors that were linked to them committing the crime, and what could be done during their sentence (both while in prison and after they have been released) to tackle these.

After all assessments have been done, a detailed plan will be developed which includes a range of things your son/daughter can do, and support they can receive, to reduce the likelihood of them reoffending when they are released from prison. The plan should be realistic with clear goals, a sequence of actions and time frame for each action.



The plan might include a range of actions such as:

- Attending **offender management programmes**
- Attending programmes to tackle drug/alcohol problems
- Doing training or getting qualifications to help with getting a job
- Resolving problems with housing or benefits outside of prison
- Supporting family and close relationships both in prison and on release

It is important to note that not many of the offender management programmes on offer within the prison service have been adapted to support people with learning disabilities. This may mean that there are not many programmes your son/daughter could attend, but programmes should not be included in their sentence plan if

they would be unable to attend them. Prison/probation staff can offer one to one support instead of a programme.

Your son/daughter's sentence plan should be reviewed regularly while they are serving their sentence. It is very important that your son/daughter takes part in developing their sentence plan and follows it, as this will demonstrate that they are motivated to overcome factors which may have led to them offending. This is particularly important if your son/daughter is on an indeterminate prison sentence where a **parole board** will decide whether they are safe to be released from prison after they have served their tariff (see page 50).

What happens in prison

The cell

You son/daughter will be assigned to a cell in the prison. This will be where they sleep. If they are in a closed prison they will be locked in their cell for parts of the day.



They may have to share their cell with another prisoner, but won't have to share with someone who smokes if they don't smoke themselves. The prison staff will choose someone for your son/daughter to share with who they think they might get along with. If your son/daughter wants to move cell because they feel unsafe or unhappy they should talk to a prison officer or their personal officer who can help.

Prisoners on remand should not have to share a cell with a convicted prisoner.

The cell will have a bed for your son/daughter (with clean bedding provided by the prison) and a toilet. There will also be a desk and somewhere to store personal items. There is unlikely to be a bath or shower (although some category C

prisons may have ensuite bathrooms), but your son / daughter should be able to have a bath or shower at least 3 times a week.

Personal property

Prisoners are allowed to keep certain personal items in their cell, as long as they fit in **two boxes** (this is called **volumetric control**). In addition to this, prisoners can have a stereo or something to play music on, a bigger item such as a guitar, any religious items for practicing their faith (see below), and any legal papers they need.

The things that your son/daughter is allowed to keep will depend on their security category and the specific prison they are in. They should receive information about this in their induction pack. Some items that they may be allowed to keep are listed below; most of these items can be bought through the prison shop (called the **canteen**).

- Newspapers, up to 12 books / audio books, or magazines (either their own or borrowed from the prison library)
 - A computer
 - 62.5g of tobacco or 80 cigarettes / cigars
- Remand prisoners can keep 137.5g of tobacco or 180 cigarettes / cigars
- Games
 - Materials for hobbies, e.g. art
 - A birdcage & small bird
 - A watch
 - An electric shaver
 - Things to help with a disability
 - Batteries
 - Toiletries
 - Wedding ring or plain ring
 - Necklace or locket
 - Religious books / incense
 - Photographs
 - An address book
 - Stamps and envelopes
 - Medication

There are some items that your son/daughter will **not** be allowed to keep. These include the items below and may include other items depending on the prison:

- A mobile phone
- A weapon, e.g. a knife
- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs

You will **not** be allowed to give things to your son/daughter during a visit and you are also not usually allowed to send things into the prison for them. You can, however, send them some money (which will go into their **private cash** – see below) to help them buy things that they need in prison. To do this, you will need to send the money, cheque, or postal order in an envelope with your son/daughter's name and prison number on. You should ask the prison who you should make the cheque/postal order out to.

Eating and drinking

Food and drink will be provided for your son/daughter by the prison. They will have a choice of food from a menu each day. If they need to follow a special diet for health or religious reasons then the prison will allow this. They may also be able to buy snacks from the canteen – see below.

Exercise

Your son/daughter should be allowed to spend time outside in the fresh air for at least 30 minutes per day.

There will also be other ways for your son/daughter to exercise, such as using a gym or doing sports for 1 hour per week (if your son/daughter is **over 21**) or 2 hours per week (if



your son/daughter is **aged 18-21**).

Healthcare

In prison your son/daughter should receive the **same level of healthcare that they would receive if they were not in prison.**



The prison will have doctors who can see prisoners who are unwell or have healthcare needs. Some prisons might have a healthcare wing where prisoners who are unwell can stay to get better.



If your son/daughter has a health problem that can't be assessed or treated in the prison they're in one of three things might happen to make sure they get the help they need:

- They might **be transferred to a prison that can support them**
- A **specialist healthcare worker might come into the prison** to assess or treat your son/daughter
- Your son/daughter might be **taken from prison to a hospital** for treatment.

Religion

When they arrive at prison, your son/daughter will be asked to say what religion they are. This is so that prison staff know what your son/daughter's religion is and can support them to continue practicing it while in prison.

Every prison will have **chaplains** from a number of different religions who can help prisoners to practice their religion. If they don't have a chaplain from your son/daughter's religion they should allow someone from your son/daughter's religion to visit them in prison. Your son/daughter can see a chaplain even if they don't have a religion, as chaplains also offer general advice to prisoners.

Chaplain

The prison will accommodate any dietary requirements due to a prisoner's religion (e.g. not eating meat) and will allow 1 hour per week for faith related activities (e.g. praying in the chapel). They will also offer support for religious festivals (e.g. providing certain types of food, modifying activities etc.). Your son/daughter will be allowed to keep religious items in their cell such as religious texts or incense.



Work, training, & education

Whilst they are in prison, your son/daughter should spend most of their day working. The type of work they do will depend on what they are able to do and prison staff will assess this soon after they arrive. They might do things like:



- Gardening
- Farming
- Making things that the prison needs or that they will sell in the community
- Working around the prison, e.g. in the laundry room or kitchen

Your son/daughter will be paid for this work, and any money they are paid gets put in their private cash which they can spend while in prison (see below). If they cannot work because there is no suitable work for them, they will be paid an allowance by the prison instead.

They may receive training to do their job in prison, and can also access training or get qualifications for other things that they want to do once they leave prison. They should talk to the **education officer** about what training or qualifications they might be able to do while they're in prison.

Education
officer

Prisoners on remand are not required to work but may do so if they want to and a job is available.

Money

The prison will keep any money for prisoners in their private cash. This includes money that they had with them when they arrived, money sent by relatives (see page 26), and money earned from working in prison. Private cash can be spent in different ways in prison including:

- At the prison **canteen**
- Renting a **TV** for their cell (depending on their behaviour – see page 38)
- Paying for **telephone calls**



How much of their private cash a prisoner is allowed to spend each week depends on their behaviour (see page 38).

The canteen

The canteen is the prison shop where prisoners can buy items with their private cash. Items they can buy include:

- Tobacco
- Batteries
- Sweets



- Toiletries

The canteen can also order specific items for prisoners as long as they are allowed to have these items in prison. For example, prisoners might be able to order specific toiletries, books, games, electronic items etc.

Prison rules



While your son/daughter is in prison, they will have to follow some rules. These might vary between prisons but in every prison **prisoners must not:**

- ✗ **Offend, threaten or hurt someone** (either another prisoner or a member of prison staff)
- ✗ **Stop prison staff from doing their jobs**
- ✗ **Escape** from the prison
- ✗ Take **drugs** or drink **alcohol**
- ✗ **Damage** the prison, e.g. by starting a fire
- ✗ **Have items that are not allowed** (see page 26), or have **too much of something that is allowed** (e.g. too much tobacco)
- ✗ **Be in parts of the prison that prisoners are not allowed in**
- ✗ **Disobey** prison staff
- ✗ **Break** any of these rules when released from the prison temporarily (see page 50).

If your son/daughter breaks any of these rules it is called an “**offence**” (although it is **not** the same as a **criminal offence** unless the thing that your son/daughter did is against the law, such as hurting someone).

There will be a hearing called an **adjudication** where the **prison governor** or an **independent district judge** will decide what punishment to give for the offence. The hearing is a bit like a criminal trial and your son/daughter must be at the hearing to say whether they are guilty or not guilty and why. They should ask their personal officer, other prisoners, or prison staff for help to prepare for the hearing. The punishments that can be given for an offence include:

- A **caution**
- **Losing privileges** (e.g. see page 38) for up to 42 days, or up to 21 days if they are under 21
- **Not being allowed to spend any of their private cash** for up to 84 days or up to 42 days if they are under 21
- **Being locked in a cell away from other prisoners** for up to 35 days or up to 16 days if they are under 21
- **Not being allowed to work** with other prisoners for up to 21 days
- **Being taken off the prison wing or living unit** for up to 28 days or up to 21 days if they are under 21
- For serious offences, an independent district judge can also decide to make the prisoner **stay in prison for up to an extra 42 days**
- **Prisoners who are under 21** can also have their **activities stopped** for 21 days or have to do **2 hours**

more work every day for up to 21 days.

Incentives & earned privileges (IEPs)

The **incentives and earned privileges scheme** allows prisoners to earn extra things while they are in prison if they behave well. Behaving well means obeying the rules, helping others, working, and doing things that are included on their sentence plan (see page 23).

There are **four levels** of incentives and earned privileges. They will be put on the **‘entry level’ when they first arrive** at prison and will be on this level for **14 days** before the prison decides whether to move them to the ‘standard’ or ‘basic level’ depending on their behaviour.

Your son/daughter will be given information about how they are expected to behave and how to move through the IEP levels. If their behaviour does not continue to meet the requirements for the level they are on, they could be downgraded to a lower level.

The table on the next page gives information about the different IEP levels.

	Basic	Entry	Standard	Enhanced
Private cash allowance per week	£4 (£22)*	£10 (£35)*	£15.50 (£47.50)*	£25.50 (£51)*
Letters, phone calls, visits allowed by law	✓	✓	✓	✓
TV (may cost up to £1 a week rent)		✓	✓	✓
Additional visits		✓	✓	✓
Own clothing (if male convicted prisoner)			✓	✓
Extra time out of cell			✓	✓
Extra time in the gym			✓	✓
Higher paid job			✓	✓
Improved visits e.g. in nicer surroundings, more flexible times				✓
Games console in cell				✓

*** = for prisoners on remand**

Individual prisons may also have other items that can be earned at the different IEP levels.

Keeping in touch

There are a number of ways that you can keep in touch with your son/daughter while they are in prison. These include:

- Telephone calls
- Letters
- Emails
- Visits

Telephone calls

Prisoners are allowed to make telephone calls while they are in prison. Shortly after arriving at prison they will be given a **PIN**, which they will have to type into the phone before they can make a call. They might have to write down a list of all the people they want to be able to telephone, so it is **VERY** important that your son/daughter has your phone number.

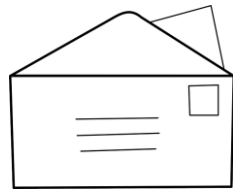


Phone calls are **not** free, and your son/daughter will have to top up their credit from their private cash. Telephone calls also might **not** be private (unless the call is to their **legal advisor**), as prison staff are able to listen in to a phone call if they think they need to for any reason.

Friends and relatives **cannot** make phone calls to a prisoner.

Letters

Prisoners are able to send and receive letters while they are in prison. They will be able to send one free letter per week. If they want to send more than one letter a week, they will have to pay the postage for this. They can receive as many letters as they want to each week.



Prisoners on remand can send two free letters per week.

If you would like to send a letter to your son/daughter in prison you will need to write their name and prison number on the envelope.

Letters will **not** be private (unless it is to / from your son/daughter's legal advisor), as prison staff are allowed to read them if they think they need to.

Emails

Prisons might allow you to email your son/daughter using the **email a prisoner scheme**. Emails can be quicker than letters, and your son/daughter will receive them in the same way they would receive a letter. Emails cost 35p to send, and your son/daughter **may** be able to reply, but might have to reply using a letter. Emails will also **not** be private.



Visits

You can visit your son/daughter while they are in prison. The number of visits your son/daughter can have might vary by prison and how they behave (see page 38), but as a minimum they should be allowed:

- **Two 1 hour visits every 4 weeks** if they are a convicted prisoner
- **Three 1 hour visits every week if they are a prisoner on remand**

If you do not live near your son/daughter's prison, you may be able to visit less often but for a longer period time (this is called **accumulated visits**). You may also be able to get help with the costs of travelling to the prison for visits if you have a low income through the **assisted visits scheme**. You should ask your son/daughter's prison about how to arrange this.

Your son/daughter will have to complete a **visiting order** for every visit which is a form where they must write a list of who will visit. They can ask prison officers or other prisoners for help with this. They will then send this to you and you should bring it with you when you visit. Everyone who wants to visit **must** be written on the visiting order. Up to three adults can visit at a time along with any children. Anyone

under the age of 18 will have to be accompanied by an adult.

Prisoners on remand do not have to complete a visiting order.

You will need to phone the prison to book your visit.

Some prisons might allow you to book a visit online.



When you arrive at the prison, all of the visitors will have to show ID (e.g. a driver's licence, passport, birth certificate etc.) and will be



searched to make sure they don't have anything that is not allowed in the prison. All personal belongings will have to be left in a locker outside of the visiting room, and you may need a trolley coin or £1 coin for this.

In the visiting room there will be somewhere to buy drinks or snacks for you and your son/daughter. There might also be somewhere for children to play.

Your son/daughter will have to stay sitting down during the visit and you are usually only allowed physical contact (e.g. a hug) at the beginning and end of the visit.

There will be lots of other people in the visiting room and some prison officers, so your visit will **not** be private.

Help for prisoners with disabilities

There are some sources of support in prison for prisoners who have disabilities.

Disability
liaison
officer

Disability liaison officer

The main way that your son/daughter can get help while in prison is by speaking to the disability liaison officer, whose job it is to help prisoners who have disabilities. The disability liaison officer may be able to help in a number of ways:

- **Listening** to your son/daughter and finding out what their needs are
- Helping to make sure these **needs are met**
- Talking to the prison governor about **anything that needs to be done in the prison** to better support the needs of prisoners with disabilities
- Giving out **information** to prisoners and staff
- Organising **activities** for prisoners with disabilities
- **Supporting** prisoners with disabilities to take part in activities in the prison

There may be a form to fill out for your son/daughter to see the disability liaison officer, and prisoner officers or other prisoners will be able to help them with this.

Other prisoners

Another source of support for prisoners with disabilities is other prisoners. Many prisons run buddy schemes which involve training other prisoners to offer support relating to a range of things. This might include:

- **Listeners/buddies** who are trained to offer social support
- **Reading mentors** who can help with reading/writing
- **Disability orderlies/representatives** who offer support to prisoners with disabilities

Adaptations to help people with disabilities

The law says that all services must make **reasonable adjustments** to support people with disabilities. This includes prisons and means that the prison should do everything they can to help prisoners who have disabilities to take part in prison life. This might mean doing a range of things such as adapting information to make it easier to read, providing information in different formats (e.g. on a CD), adapting the building where possible to make it easier to get around (e.g. using ramps, hand rails etc.), or adapting education classes and offender management programmes to make sure that prisoners who have disabilities can still take part.

Some prisons do not have the facilities to properly support

prisoners with disabilities, therefore your son/daughter might be transferred to a different prison that is able to meet their needs. They should, however, **never** be put in a prison that is a higher security category than they have been assigned just because of their disability.

If your son/daughter does not think that the prison are doing everything they can to help them take part in prison life they should seek advice from their legal advisor.

Other prison staff

There may also be other staff at the prison who can help prisoners more generally with a range of things. These include:

- Chaplains
- Psychologists
- The prisoner's personal officer

Liaison & diversion services

Liaison &
Diversion
staff

Another way that your son/daughter might be able to get help in prison **if they are on remand** is through Liaison and diversion services. Liaison and diversion services are NHS services which support the identification, assessment, and referral of people of all ages who have learning disabilities, autism or a mental health condition in the criminal justice system. **They can only offer support if your son/daughter is on remand in prison, and will not be able to help if they have been sentenced to prison.** They aim to:

- **Divert** people out of the criminal justice system where possible
- **Reduce** the **time** people with learning disabilities / autism / mental health conditions spend in **custody** (at a police station or in prison)
- **Reduce** the amount of **time** spent in court and delays in the **court** process due to lack of information or assessments
- **Reduce repeat arrests** by improving access to treatment in the community
- **Improve access to treatment** and support generally
- **Improve health outcomes**

How a referral to the service is made

Once it has been identified that a person might have a learning disability or mental health condition, prison staff can make a referral to the liaison and diversion service, if there is one in their area. Some liaison and diversion services may also accept referrals from the prisoner themselves, or from their friends, family or carers.

What happens after a referral is made

After receiving a referral, the service will arrange to assess the person to identify whether they have a learning disability or autism or a mental health condition and refer them to treatment and support if necessary. They are able to work with community health and social care services to make sure that the person is receiving good support in the community as well as whilst they are going through the criminal justice system.

They will also provide information to staff in the criminal justice system about the person's learning disability / autism / mental health condition so that they can take this information into account when making decisions.

Limitations of liaison and diversion services

Although liaison and diversion services do aim to help people with learning disabilities or autism, it is important to note that they may be relatively new services in some areas and they might not have expertise at every service in supporting people with learning disabilities or autism. They are also not currently available in all areas as NHS England are undergoing a trial of Liaison & Diversion Services across 10 sites in England. There are plans to make Liaison and Diversion Services available in every area by 2016/2017.

How to contact your local Liaison & Diversion service

As the Liaison and Diversion scheme is still in a trial phase, there is no central list of all Liaison and Diversion services. If you'd like to contact your local Liaison and Diversion service you should be able to get their details from a police station, your local Magistrate's/Crown Court, or your son/daughter's prison. Alternatively, you may be able to find their details by searching for them online.

To find out more information about Liaison and Diversion services visit:

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/health-just/liaison-and-diversion/>

Release from prison

Your son/daughter might be released from prison either temporarily or at the end of their sentence.

When they are released and what types of temporary or early release they are eligible for can be very complicated and will depend on the crime they committed, the type and length of sentence they were given, and the risk they pose to the public. Your son/daughter should be given detailed information about when they are eligible to be released, and can speak to their personal officer if they are unsure.

Release on temporary licence

Your son/daughter may be able to leave prison temporarily for a number of reasons (this is called **release on temporary licence**). They can only apply for this after they have served a **quarter of their total sentence**, and they **cannot apply more than 2 years before their release date**. There are four types of temporary release that may be granted:

- **Special purposes licence**: this allows your son/daughter to leave prison (for up to 4 nights) to visit a relative who is very ill, attend a funeral/marriage/religious service, get medical treatment, or go to court.

- **Resettlement day release:** this allows your son/daughter to leave prison for a day to do community service projects, keep in touch with family, or attend training or education courses.
- **Resettlement overnight release:** this is the same as resettlement day release but allows your son/daughter to be away from prison overnight so that they can spend time where they will live after the end of their sentence.
- **Childcare resettlement:** this allows your son/daughter to leave prison temporarily (up to 3 nights) to care for a child (only if they will be the child's sole caregiver when they are released from prison). This can be taken every 2 months.

Your son/daughter will not be granted release on temporary licence if they are a category A prisoner and will only be granted it if a relative is dying if they are a category B prisoner.

Prisoners on remand or those who have been convicted but not yet sentenced cannot get a release on temporary licence.

At the end of their sentence

When your son/daughter is released from prison will depend

on how long their prison sentence was for and the type of sentence.

- **Determinate sentences:** your son/daughter will usually be released half way through their sentence
- **Extended sentences:** your son/daughter will be eligible to apply to be released (called **parole**) after they have served two thirds of their sentence.
- **Indeterminate and life sentences:** your son/daughter will be eligible to apply to be released from prison after they have served the tariff set by the court.

Prisoners on remand will be released if they are found not guilty or if they are found guilty but not sentenced to prison.

Home detention curfew

If your son/daughter's determinate sentence is between 3 months and 2 years, they may be eligible to be released on **home detention curfew (HDC)** up to 135 days before their release date.

HDC means that your son/daughter will be able to leave the prison but will have to wear an electronic monitor (**tag**) on their ankle until their original release date. They will have to follow certain rules, such as being home at certain times, and the tag will monitor this. If they break the rules they will be

sent back to prison. It is a crime to take the tag off.

Your son/daughter won't be able to be released on HDC if they committed a violent or sexual crime, and they must have somewhere to live in order to be put on HDC.

What happens when your son/daughter is released

When your son/daughter is released from prison (not on temporary licence) they will be given their belongings and own clothes back. If their clothes don't fit, the prison can give them some to wear for the journey home.

Your son/daughter may be given a **travel warrant** which will let them use the bus, train, or coach to get home. They may also be given a **discharge grant** to cover their expenses (e.g. food, travel etc.) for their first week. Your son/daughter should talk to their personal officer before their release to find out whether they are eligible for these grants.

Prisoners who were on remand will not be given a discharge grant.

Your son/daughter should try to make sure they have somewhere to live **before they are released**. The prison can help them to do this, but they should try to begin making arrangements for this well in advance of their release date as

it can take a while to arrange. Similarly, the prison may be able to help your son/daughter to apply for some benefits while they're in prison (ready for when they are released), or can arrange an appointment at the Jobcentre for when they are released. They should go to the job centre within 7 days of being released from prison to make sure that they can claim benefits from the day they were released.

Being on licence

When your son/daughter leaves prison, they will be on licence for a certain amount of time. This means that they will have to abide by certain rules and meet with their offender manager regularly to help stop them reoffending. There is more information on being on licence in the probation booklet (see page 1).

Prisoners who were on remand will not be placed on licence if they are released because they were found not guilty.

How you can help

If your son/daughter is sent to prison it can be a very stressful time. Prison can be very confusing and intimidating, but there are ways that you can help your son/daughter and support them while they are in prison.

- **Use this booklet** and the **‘useful resources’ websites** to find out about prison so that you’re well prepared and can help your son/daughter to prepare
- **Keep in touch** with your son/daughter while they’re in prison as much as you can (see page 42)
- Make sure that your son/daughter knows how important it is to **tell the prison that they have a learning disability or autism**
- **Make a referral to your local liaison and diversion service** if this has not already been done
- **Call your son/daughter’s social worker, community nurse, psychologist, or psychiatrist** if they have one. They will be able to talk to the prison and the liaison & diversion service.

Legal advice for yourself

You could also get advice from a solicitor for yourself which might help you to understand what is happening and how

you can best help your son/daughter. You can obtain legal advice by contacting any solicitor (e.g. by searching for one in your area online, going into a solicitor's office, finding one in the phone book). They will charge for their services, so it will **not** be free.

Useful terms

Accumulated visits: when a family member is allowed to visit their relative in prison less often but for a longer amount of time, if they live far away from the prison.

Adjudication: the type of hearing (meeting) that is held when a prisoner has broken one of the prison's rules. At the adjudication, the prison governor or independent district judge will decide whether the prisoner is innocent or guilty and decide what consequences to give the prisoner if they are guilty.

Arrest: when the police think someone has committed a crime and take them to the police station to find out more.

Assisted visits: when a family member gets financial help with the costs of travelling to a prison to visit their relative.

Canteen: the prison shop where prisoners can buy things that they need with their private cash.

Cell: the place in prison where a prisoner sleeps. The cell will be locked for part of the day if it is a prison for category B prisoners.

Chaplains: people who work in the prison and help prisoners to practice their religion. Chaplains are from lots of different religions. Prisoners can talk to chaplains even if they are not religious, as chaplains also offer general advice to prisoners.

Closed prison: a type of prison with tight security where prisoners are carefully managed by prison staff to make sure they don't try to escape.

Convicted: when someone pleads guilty or is found guilty of a crime.

Court: the place where people say what they know about the crime to help a judge or jury decide if the person committed the crime. If it is decided that the person did commit the crime, the court also decides what consequences the person should have for committing the crime.

Crime: any action that breaks the law. This may also be called an offence.

Criminal justice system: the system in England that deals with people who are suspected of or have committed a crime.

Criminal offence: another word for crime.

Determinate sentence: a type of prison sentence with a fixed date for when the offender will be released from prison. See page 11.

Developmental disability: a type of disability usually present from birth which may also co-occur with a learning disability. Examples include Autism, Fragile X Syndrome, Down syndrome etc. A developmental disability may be identified by psychological or medical tests.

Disability liaison officer: someone who works in the prison and whose job it is to support prisoners who have disabilities by listening to them, making sure their needs are met, helping them take part in activities etc. See page 44.

Disability orderlies/representatives: prisoners who have been trained to support other prisoners who have disabilities. See page 45.

Discharge grant: a small amount of money given to a prisoner when they leave prison to help them pay for their first week's expenses. See page 53.

Education officer: someone who works in the prison and can give prisoner's information about what education or training they can do while they're in prison.

Email a prisoner scheme: the scheme which allows family members and friends to send an email to a prisoner. See page 41.

Extended sentence: a type of prison sentence where there will be a fixed date for when the prisoner can be released, but the period spent 'on licence' will be longer than for a determinate sentence. See page 11.

Full body search: a type of search where the person has to remove their clothing.

Healthcare wing: the place in prison where healthcare staff look after prisoners who are unwell.

Hearing: any meeting at court when the Judge or Magistrates are present.

Home detention curfew: after an offender has been released early from prison as part of a determinate sentence and they have to wear an electronic monitoring device (tag) on their ankle and follow rules. See page 52.

Hospital order: an order that a court can make under the Mental Health Act if someone has been convicted of a crime, as an alternative to sending them to prison. The order requires the person to be admitted to a specific hospital for

treatment. See page 12.

Incentives & earned privileges scheme: the scheme which lets prisoners earn extra things (e.g. access to TV) if they behave well in prison. See page 38.

Independent district judge: the person who sits in adjudications for serious prison offences and decides what consequences the prisoner should have if they are guilty. Independent district judges are the only people who can make a prisoner stay in prison for longer. See page 36.

Indeterminate sentence: a type of prison sentence where the court will say the minimum amount of time an offender must stay in prison for (called their tariff) before they can be considered for release. See page 11.

Induction: when another prisoner or a prison officer tells new prisoners about the prison rules and prison life.

Induction pack: information given to prisoners when they arrive in prison about the prison rules and prison life.

Induction wing: the place in the prison where prisoners who have just arrived might spend their first night to help them get used to being in prison.

Judge: the person in Crown Court who is responsible for making sure that the trial follows the law.

Learning disability: a type of disability which is usually present from birth and results in the person having difficulty with certain things such as communication, independent living, or social skills. A learning disability includes the person having an IQ below 70 and this is usually identified using specific types of psychological tests.

Leave: when a prisoner is allowed to leave prison temporarily. Also called release on temporary licence – see page 50.

Legal advisor: someone who can give advice about the law, for example, a solicitor.

Liaison & diversion services: services that support people in the criminal justice system who may have a learning or developmental disability, or mental health condition. See page 47 for more information.

Life sentence: a type of indeterminate prison sentence where the offender will have to stay in prison for at least 15 years and will be ‘on licence’ for the rest of their life once they are released. See page 11.

Listeners / buddies: prisoners who are trained to provide social support to other prisoners. See page 45.

Magistrates: volunteer members of the public who have received a small amount of training to be able to hear trials for minor and some serious cases in a Magistrate's Court.

Mental health act: the law that protects people in hospitals who have a learning disability or autism or mental health condition and states how they should be supported. This may include being required to stay in hospital, in a locked ward if necessary. See Mental Health Act booklet for further details.

Offender assessment and sentence management system (OASys): the system used to record information about prisoners while they are in prison, including any assessments done and their sentence plan.

Offender management programme: a type of educational or therapeutic programme which aims to help offenders tackle factors that were related to them committing the crime (e.g. anger, drug/alcohol problems etc.).

Offender manager: someone who works in community probation and will work with prisoners while they are in

prison (to develop their sentence plan) and when they are released (to supervise them). May also be called a probation officer.

Offender supervisor: someone who works with prisoners while they are in prison to develop their sentence plan and help them follow it. May be the same person as a prisoner's personal officer.

On licence: when an offender has been released from prison and must be monitored by an offender manager and follow certain rules for a period of time.

Open prison: a type of prison that is less restricted than closed prisons. Prisoners will be able to move freely around the prison, may be allowed to leave the prison temporarily, and may have keys to their own cell.

Parole: when an offender is released from prison before their official release date because they are no longer a risk to the public.

Parole board: the group of people who decide whether a prisoner who is on an extended or indeterminate sentence is no longer a risk to the public and can be released from prison.

Personal officer: the prison officer who is responsible for specific prisoners and who can help them while they are in prison.

PIN: the number that prisoners have to type into the telephone before they can make a phone call. See page 40.

Place of safety: a place where a person who has a mental health condition might be taken to keep them or other people safe. This might include a hospital, a police station, or a prison.

Prison: a locked place where people who have committed a crime might be required to live for a period as a consequence for committing the crime.

Prison governor: the person who is in charge of the prison. May be called a director if the prison is privately run.

Prison number: the number given to a prisoner when they first arrive in prison so that they can easily be identified in records kept about them.

Prison offence: when a prisoner has broken the prison's rules.

Prison officer: someone who works in prison and whose job

it is to manage prisoners.

Private cash: the money that prisoners have while they are in prison (e.g. from money they had when they arrived, money they were sent by relatives, or money they earned from working).

Probation: when a person has been charged and found guilty of a crime but the court does not think the person should go to prison, or if the person has just been released from prison, they are said to be on “probation”. If they have just been released from prison, this might also be called “on licence” or on “parole”. Probation means the person is still serving their sentence for the crime, but is allowed to do this in the community. Probation will have rules that must be followed in order to avoid going back to court or prison. See probation booklet for more information.

Reading mentor: a prisoner who has been trained to help other prisoners with reading or writing.

Reasonable adjustments: things that all organisations (including prisons) have to do to help people with disabilities to access the service.

Release date: the date on which a prisoner can be released

from prison.

Release on temporary licence: when a prisoner is allowed to leave the prison temporarily – see page 50.

Remanded to prison: when someone is sent to prison while they waiting for their trial, in-between the hearings of their trial, or waiting to be sentenced.

Restriction order: an order that can be added to a hospital order to restrict when an offender can be released from hospital.

Section 47: the part of the mental health act which says how and when a prisoner can be transferred to hospital from prison for treatment of a serious mental health condition.

Security category: a way of categorising prisoners based on how much of a risk they are to the public and how likely they are to try to escape. See page 14.

Sentence plan: the plan developed by an offender manager, offender supervisor, personal officer, and prisoner which has a list of things that the prisoner or prison can do to help make sure the prisoner does not reoffend once they are released from prison. See page 23.

Sentence: the name given to the consequences given by a court when someone has been convicted of a crime.

Suspended sentence: a type of prison sentence where the offender will only have to go to prison if they break the rules given to them by the court. See page 10.

Tag: the electronic monitor that an offender must wear on their ankle if they have been released from prison on home detention curfew.

Tariff: the minimum length of time that an offender must be in prison for if they are given an indeterminate or life sentence.

Travel warrant: a document which allows a prisoner to use the bus, train, or coach, to get back home once they have been released from prison. See page 53.

Trial: the process in court of finding out whether someone is guilty or innocent of a crime they have been accused of. May involve many hearings.

Visiting order: a piece of paper where prisoners must write who will visit them on each visit and send it to the people who will visit them to bring to prison with them. See page 42.

Volumetric control: the rule that says prisoners can only keep enough personal items in their cell to fit in two boxes. See page 27.

Whole life sentence: a type of prison sentence where the offender will have to spend the rest of their life in prison.

Youth custody: the name given to prison sentences for people who are under the age of 18.

Youth offender institute: a type of prison where prisoners who are aged 18-21 can be held.

Youth offending team: a team of professionals who support young people who are at risk of committing crimes or who have committed a crime. The youth offending team aims to prevent offending/reoffending by children and young people.

Useful resources

This is a list of the places where information for this booklet was found and other resources that you might find useful.

A joint inspectorate of the treatment of offenders with learning disabilities within the criminal justice system

Phase one *from arrest to sentence*

<https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/cji/inspections/joint-inspection-of-the-treatment-of-offenders-with-learning-disabilities-within-the-criminal-justice-system-phase-1-from-arrest-to-sentence/#.Vqe8VflVikp>

Phase two *in custody and the community*

<https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/cji/inspections/learningdisabilitiesphase2/#.Vqe8cPlViko>

Action for prisoners' and offenders' families

<http://www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk/>

The Bradley Report about how people with mental health problems or learning disabilities are treated in the criminal justice system.

<https://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/pdf/Bradleyreport.pdf>

Citizens Advice information pages

General information on legal system:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/law-and-rights/legal-system/>

Prisons

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/law-and-rights/legal-system/prisoners/prisoners/>

Department of Health ‘Positive Practice Positive Outcomes’ Report

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/positive-practice-positive-outcomes-a-handbook-for-professionals-in-the-criminal-justice-system-working-with-offenders-with-a-learning-disability>

Gov.uk information pages

General information on legal system:

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/justice>

Prison pages

<https://www.gov.uk/life-in-prison/arriving-at-prison>

Visiting a prisoner

<https://www.gov.uk/prison-visits>

Email a prisoner scheme

<http://www.emailaprisoner.com/>

KeyRing criminal justice system resources:

<https://www.keyring.org/cjs>

Liaison & Diversion Services

<http://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/health-just/liaison-and-diversion/>

MENCAP resources on the criminal justice system

<https://www.mencap.org.uk/raising-your-game/resources>

Mental Health Act Code of Practice (see, in particular, chapter 22)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-practice-mental-health-act-1983>

National Autistic Society: Criminal Justice information pages

<http://www.autism.org.uk/working-with/criminal-justice.aspx>

Offenders' Families Helpline

<http://www.offendersfamilieshelpline.org/>

Open Justice

<http://open.justice.gov.uk/>

POPS – information for families

<http://www.partnersofprisoners.co.uk/>

Prisoners' families and friends service

<http://pffs.org.uk/>

Prison Reform Trust

<http://www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/>

No One Knows project:

<http://www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/ProjectsResearch/Learningdisabilitiesanddifficulties>

Fair Access to Justice Report

<http://www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/Publications/ItemId/156/vw/1>

Prisoners information pages

<http://www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/Publications/PrisonersInformationBooks>

Rethink Mental Illness criminal justice system pages

<http://www.rethink.org/living-with-mental-illness/police-courts-prison>

Sentencing Council (includes sentencing guidelines)

<http://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk/>

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