

Additional Nepacs support

Youth facilities

We also provide special youth room facilities for young people aged 8 to 18 at HMP Holme House, HMP Frankland and HMP&YOI Low Newton. There are different activities and support on offer. The youth rooms are open weekends from 12noon to 2pm. Young people can have a game of pool or play on a computer game whilst they are waiting for their visit.

Listening support

Our staff and volunteers can offer support and a listening ear to new visitors and to those who are finding it hard to cope when a loved one is in custody. For more information please contact the prison visitors' centre.

Family support workers

Our dedicated family support workers work with families, prisoners and services in the community. The main aim is to help prisoners maintain or re-establish contact with their family during their sentence.

Family support/engagement workers are located at:

HMYOI Deerbolt: [01833 633411](tel:01833633411)
HMP&YOI Low Newton: [07854 594054](tel:07854594054)
HMP Holme House: [07964 960100](tel:07964960100)
HMP Kirklevington Grange: [07805 937158](tel:07805937158)

As part of a multi-agency team around the child or family, you may be able to put the family in contact with the prison's family support worker in order to coordinate support for the whole family, including the prisoner.

Useful resources

As well as the resources available on our website the following may be useful.

The Outsiders: a series of booklets to help families cope with imprisonment, targeted at different age groups. Paper copies are available to order or visit www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk/downloads

Prisoners' families toolkit
www.youngsouthampton.org/workforce/

Visiting my Dad/my Mum
www.ormiston.org.uk

Inside Times contains information about visiting people in prison; procedures, opening times, directions etc. www.insidetime.org

When Dad Was Away is a story book written by Liz Weir and Karin Littlewood.

i-HOP - One stop information advice service supporting all professionals to work with offenders' children and their families. www.i-hop.org.uk

Helplines

Action for Prisoners' and Offenders Families
www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk

GOV.UK website - www.gov.uk

Offenders' Families Helpline
www.offendersfamilieshelpline.org.uk

Prison Chat UK - www.prisonchatuk.com

Family Lives - www.familylives.org.uk

nepacs

Supporting a positive future
for prisoners and their families



Supporting prisoners families What can schools do?

Did you know...

- 200,000 children have a parent sent to prison each year
- Research shows that children and young people would like to talk about their feelings around the imprisonment of a family member but are rarely asked
- More children experience parental imprisonment than divorce
- These children are more than twice as likely to suffer from mental health problems than their peers
- 2/3 of boys with fathers in prison go on to offend themselves

Find out more at
www.nepacs.co.uk

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Are you aware of and do you understand the specific needs of prisoners' and offenders' families?

Do you know about local support services and resources?

Nepacs supports prisoners' families across the North East region.

Contact Nepacs on **0191 3757278** or email info@nepacs.co.uk to find out more.



8 points to consider

- **Be aware of the issues facing prisoners' families**

There are lots of resources to help raise your awareness and understanding. Hidden Sentence training is available for school staff - contact Nepacs on **0191 3323810** for details.

- **Help the child talk through their feelings**

There are many resources to help you, including children's books, magazines and worksheets.

- **Information and support for families**
Display leaflets, posters and other sources of support. Help families become aware of support services, such as children's centres and voluntary organisations.
- **Whole school approach**
Staff and governors need to be aware of the issues. Designate a staff member as having responsibility for keeping up to date resources and information.
- **Absence from school**
Schools sometimes discover that a sudden change and pattern of absence is related to prison visits. Do contact our family support workers and visitors' centres to discuss this as some prisons offer special visits, homework clubs and evening visits. Prisons are keen to support family contact and parental involvement in a child's learning to the extent that a programme of "education elsewhere" can sometimes be agreed.
- **Curriculum**
Incorporate issues around prison, crime and blame/punishment into subjects such as PSHE.
- **Keep the prisoner informed**
The prisoner is a parent too. It may be appropriate to send information such as reports, newsletters etc to the prisoner.
- **Visitors' Centres**
There are staff and volunteers on hand to provide information, guidance and support for first time visitors about a range of topics. Nepacs also provides a play room, refreshments, information, disabled access and some centres have a quiet room.

Prison Visitors' Centres

HMP Durham, Durham City
Visitor' centre: 0191 3323676

HMP Northumberland, near Morpeth
Visitors' centre: 01670 382066

HMYOI Deerbolt, Barnard Castle
Visitors' centre: 01833 633272

HMP Frankland, Brasside, Durham
Visitors' centre: 0191 3675200

HMP Holme House, Stockton on Tees
Visitors' centre: 01642 744080

HMP&YOI Low Newton,
Brasside, Durham
Visitors' centre: 0191 3764138

HMP Kirklevington Grange
Yarm, Teesside
Kirklevington Grange does not have a visitors' centre. Nepacs provides tea bar facilities only in the visits room.
Prison: 0780 5937158

Alternatively, email Nepacs at info@nepacs.co.uk or visit www.nepacs.co.uk

