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 **HMP YOI Sudbury INFORMATION FOR VISITORS**

Family is an important aspect in most people’s lives but for prisoners maintaining or building good family ties, it is key in motivating them to change and helping with their resettlement back into the community.

Studies carried out by the Ministry of Justice show that prisoners who have visitors come to see them are 39% less likely to re-offend, than those who don’t.

**When can I visit?**

Visiting times are;

Monday None

Tuesday 09:30hrs – Legal Visits

Wednesday 14:00 or 15:00hrs

Thursday 14:00 or 15:00hrs

Friday None

Saturday 09:00 or 10:30hrs & 13:45 or 15:15hrs

Sunday 09:00 or 10:30hrs & 13:45 or 15:15hrs

**How do I book a visit?**

Visits are booked online on the website [www.gov.uk/prison-visits](http://www.gov.uk/prison-visits)

**Arriving at the prison;**

* When you arrive at the prison there is a visits waiting room facing the main gate house. This will be opened approximately 30 minutes before the start of your visit.
* There is also the Secret Diner restaurant opposite the car park, which will be open for you to get refreshments and use the toilet facilities if you are early for your visit.
* If you need financial help with travelling for your visits; information regarding The Assisted Prison Visits Scheme is available on the website <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-prison-visits> or speak to staff.
* PACT is an organisation that support family visits at HMP YOI Sudbury and can be contacted through their website <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/> - more details below.
* Hot and Cold refreshments will be available to purchase in the visits hall by cash only and a maximum of £25.00 can be brought in per table.
* Toilets are available in the visits hall where there are also baby changing facilities.

**Family support;**

HMP YOI Sudbury provide a family engagement manager from an organisation called Prison advice and care trust- (Pact). Pact is a national charity that provides support to prisoners, people with convictions, and their families. They aim to support people to make a fresh start and minimise the potential harm that can be caused by imprisonment, to people who have committed offences, on their families and communities.

**Is there disabled access?**

Yes. HMP YOI Sudbury visits hall has a flat surface with no steps involved. Doors are wide enough to fit a standard wheelchair.

**How many visits are allowed?**

* Enhanced Prisoners 4 visits a month
* Standard Prisoners 3 visits a month
* Basic prisoners 2 visits a month

**How should I prepare for the visit?**

Give yourself plenty of time to get to HMP YOI Sudbury; the visitor’s waiting room opens at 09.00hrs for morning sessions and 13.00hrs for afternoon sessions. You may begin the booking-in process at any time after the waiting room opens and before your visit.

You will need to bring identification with you - please see the list of accepted ID below. You may wish to bring a £1 coin to use a locker in the visitor’s waiting room, where your belongings can be kept during your visit. No personal items will be allowed into the visits hall. The £1 is refundable. No change is available in the visitor’s waiting room and there are no ATM/cash points on site.

**Is there any clothing I cannot wear?**

No clothing with offensive slogans

Clothing must be appropriate for a public environment with families and children present.

You may be asked to change your clothes or denied entry if clothing is deemed inappropriate.

**What ID should I bring?**

Passport, Driving Licence, Bus pass with a picture, Birth certificate. Must have one form of photo ID with proof of name and address.

**Are there any facilities for my children?**

There is a baby changing area in the main visits hall (toilet area). A selection of toys and books are available inside the visits hall.

**Can I hand in any property on a visit?**

Yes. This has to be approved before your visit. Prisoners will need to complete an application and take it to Reception, to be considered for approval.

**Can I hand in money?**

NO. Prisoners are not allowed access to cash within the prison.

**What can I take into the visits hall?**

Visitors must leave all personal property in their vehicle, or in a locker in the visitor’s waiting room, with the exception of the articles listed below:

* £25.00 per table, not per person
* Medication. (To be held by visits staff during visit, until necessary use)
* Maximum 3 x nappies per infant
* 1 x Pack of baby wipes
* Milk bottle, dummy/soother
* 1 x unopened jar of baby food and/or unopened carton of baby milk
* Locker Key

**Items I should be careful not to take into the visits hall?**

* Mobile telephones
* Electronic devices
* Bluetooth enabled smart watches
* Smoking paraphernalia
* Vaping paraphernalia

**When and where can I smoke/Vape?**

HMP YOI Sudbury has a designated smoking area for before and after your visit. Staff can direct you on where to go. No smoking is allowed during your visit.

**Will I be searched?**

Yes. By staff in uniform and sometimes by specialist dogs.

**Will children / babies be searched?**

Not routinely, but we reserve the right to search all visitors to the site.

**What happens inside the visits hall?**

You will report to the Officer who is sat at the booking-in desk in the visits hall. They will then allocate you to a table for your visit. The tables are numbered and set out in rows. You must only sit at the table assigned to your party.

**Can I buy any food?**

Yes you can buy snacks and refreshments during your visit for both yourselves and the person you are visiting.

**During the visit;**

* Physical contact must be appropriate to the environment. Can I remind you that there may be children present so your consideration is helpful in this matter.
* Inappropriate physical contact will not be tolerated and your visit may be terminated as a result.
* Prisoners are encouraged to engage with their children and use the books and toys available.
* Prisoners are allowed to move around the visits hall to purchase refreshments, but must only sit at their assigned table.

**Can I get help with travel costs?**

If you are on a low income or you receive certain benefits, you may be entitled to get help with the cost of visiting your relative in prison. Help is provided by the Assisted Prison Visits Unit (APVU). You can claim for up to two visits a month. For more information about the APVU:

* Ask staff in the visitor’s waiting room
* Write to Freepost BM2257, PO Box 2152, Birmingham, B15 1BR
* Phone: 03000 362 100 Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays) 09:00 - 17:00
* Textphone: 0845 304 0800 (times as above)
* Apply online at <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-prison-visits>

**If you have a concern to raise;**

You can talk to any member of staff before, during or after your visit. Please do speak up if you have any concerns as your contribution to the wellbeing of the individual you are visiting is important and valued.

**How do I get to the prison?**

HMP YOI Sudbury is situated in South Derbyshire and can be reached by public transport or by car. The closest main-line railway stations to the prison are at Tutbury and Uttoxeter which are served by Derby, Stoke and Crew stations. To complete the journey you can either take a bus or a taxi from the train station. By car the prison is situated at the junction of the A50 and A515 to Ashbourne and is easily accessible from M1 at Derby and M6 at Newcastle-under-Lyme.

**Where can I park?**

There is ample parking at the prison, if you follow the driveway there is a sign-posted car park for visitors just before the main gate. The car park is within close proximity to the Secret Diner which can be used as a visits waiting area. We ask that visitors park considerately and used disabled spaces if holders of a Blue card.

**What are Family days and Extended Visits?**

HMP YOI Sudbury offer Family days throughout the year. During a Family day, there are activities and toys out and prisoners are actively encouraged to engage with their children. Currently the primary care giver stays for the first half an hour of the visit then they leave the establishment, The primary care giver returns at lunch time and they will eat lunch together and spend the afternoon playing and doing activities altogether. Prisoners can apply to the Pact Family Engagement manager for relatives to visit on these days.

Any prisoner wishing to have an extended (double) visit can apply to Security department on a general application. All requests will be considered and supported where possible, especially for visitors with compassionate/sensitive situations, travelling long distances or staying in hotels.