

## The Way Wolverhampton Youth Zone

The Way is a youth club for children and young people from the age of 8yrs up to 19yrs (25yrs if disabled). There are a number of different activities each evening.

**Junior** (8-12yrs) sessions run Tues & Thurs (4-9pm) and Sat (10am-2pm)

**Seniors** (13-19yrs) sessions run Mon, Weds, Fri (4-10pm) and Sat (4-9pm)

**Disability** Sessions (with specialist workers) – Sun (10am-1pm) Children and Young People with disabilities can also access mainstream sessions with a DBS checked carer.



[www.thewayyouthzone.org](http://www.thewayyouthzone.org)

☎ 01902 328290

## Substance Misuse

If your family have also been impacted by the misuse of drugs or alcohol, then support can be obtained locally from Recovery Near You.



### Adults

0300 200 2400

## Children & Young People

0300 123 3360

## Prisoners' Families and Friends Service.

Delivered by the Prison Advice and Care Trust (PACT), this freephone helpline provides emotional support as well as practical advice regarding prison visits and keeping in touch, transfers, tagging and preparing for release.



0808 808 3444

## Money Matters

Turn2us can support you with money issues while your family member is serving their sentence and upon their release. Citizen's Advice Bureau provides information about housing, benefits claims and rights when a loved one is in prison.

## Useful links

### Turn2us



[www.turn2us.org.uk/Your-Situation/A-prisoner](http://www.turn2us.org.uk/Your-Situation/A-prisoner)

### ChildLine online chat



[www.childline.org.uk/Talk/Chat/Pages/OnlineChat.aspx](http://www.childline.org.uk/Talk/Chat/Pages/OnlineChat.aspx)

### Citizens Advice Bureau

Information about housing, benefits, health and complaints.



[www.citizensadvice.org.uk/law-and-rights/legal-system/prisoners/prisoners](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/law-and-rights/legal-system/prisoners/prisoners)

### Grandparents Plus

For grandparents caring for their grandchildren.



[www.grandparentsplus.org.uk/families-of-prisoners](http://www.grandparentsplus.org.uk/families-of-prisoners)



Does Your Child have a Parent or Carer in the Criminal Justice System?

Where to go for support and information in Wolverhampton



It can be a stressful experience when a parent, carer or family member is arrested and enters the criminal justice system. There can be lots of uncertainty and upheaval for you and your family during court appearances and until the final sentencing. This can impact on your children, your relationship, your family's finances and housing, your family's health and well-being.

**"The hardest things are that you've got to keep the house going, you've got to look after your children, financially you've got to be independent and then you've got to mentally support someone else when you need that support yourself... I want something back for me, but I haven't got that."**

Partner of a parent in prison.

This leaflet provides information on where to go for help and advice in Wolverhampton. **For web links to any of the sites referred to see the reverse of this leaflet.**

### Health and well-being

You can contact your **health visitor, GP, midwife, school nurse or Family Nurse Partnership nurse** to talk in confidence about issues concerning your family's health and well-being. A child may struggle to come to terms with the sudden absence of their parent and may need some support to deal with this.

### Family Support Services

Every Strengthening Families Hub in Wolverhampton has a CAPI Champion; that is someone who is trained to provide confidential support and advice to families where children have a loved one in the criminal justice system.

For information on these and other support services for families please contact the MASH

 **01902555392** select option 1

### Wolverhampton Information Network


General information about services for families in Wolverhampton.

<http://win.wolverhampton.gov.uk>

Details of your most local Strengthening Families Hub can also be found by clicking on the 'Children, Young People and Families' tab and then on the one for 'Support for Families'.

### Offenders Families Helpline

This organisation supports families of offenders through arrest, court and prison procedures.

 0808 808 2003

### Support for Children

Sometimes it can be difficult for you to talk to your child about what is happening around them. They may want to talk to someone else.

**"The health visitor knows that dad is in prison...She is supportive"**  
Parent

**ChildLine** is a service for children and young people up to the age of 19 to talk to someone in confidence. All these options are supported by trained counsellors.

The following is available:

- freephone number 08001111
- 1-2-1 online chat
- email or use message boards

There are a number of resources to help you or your family to talk to your child (no matter what their age) about what is happening and help to explore their feelings about it.

**Sesame Street** has a free SMART phone app or the following website:



[www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/incarceration#](http://www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/incarceration#)

**Family Lives- Action for Prisoners and Offenders Families** has produced a booklet on telling the children:



[http://app.pelorous.com/public/cms/209/413/570/2195/The\\_Outsideers\\_Telling\\_the\\_children.pdf?realName=Kip719.pdf?v=](http://app.pelorous.com/public/cms/209/413/570/2195/The_Outsideers_Telling_the_children.pdf?realName=Kip719.pdf?v=)

### Keeping in touch

In addition to the changes in circumstances that your family experiences when a parent/carer has been imprisoned, you may have to negotiate the practicalities of keeping in touch with that parent/carer through visits if these are allowed, or through other forms of contact such as phone, email or letterbox contact.

### Prison Visiting

The booking of most prison visits is done using an online service.

Use the link below to book



[www.gov.uk/prison-visits](http://www.gov.uk/prison-visits)

### Assistance with travel costs for prison visiting

If you are a close relative of the prisoner and you are in receipt of certain benefits you may be able to get financial assistance for your visit to and from the prison.

To download the application form visit:



[www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/contacts/noms/assisted-prison-visits/apv-form.pdf](http://www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/contacts/noms/assisted-prison-visits/apv-form.pdf)

### Support at HMP Oakwood and HMP Hewell

If your family member is being held on remand or is serving a sentence at HMP Oakwood or HMP Hewell, Barnardo's has CAPI project workers that will provide confidential support both the prisoners and their families.



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