



**HYDEBANK WOOD  
SECURE COLLEGE**

# INSPECTION OF **HYDEBANK WOOD SECURE COLLEGE 2024**

In May and June 2024 there was an inspection of Hydebank Wood Secure College. This booklet tells you what Inspectors found. A copy of the full report is in the library for you to look at.



Education and  
Training Inspectorate  
Empowering Improvement



The Regulation and  
Quality Improvement  
Authority

## WHAT IS A PRISON INSPECTION?

A prison inspection checks out how well services are working and what needs to be better. In this inspection we wanted to see how well young men living in Hydebank Wood were being kept safe, treated and cared for. We also looked to see if there are some things that could be done better.

### We look at five areas during prison inspections:



#### **Leadership**

Prison leaders work to deliver good results for young men;



#### **Safety**

Young men are held safely;



#### **Respect**

Young men are treated with respect;



#### **Purposeful activity**

Young men can do activities to benefit them; and



#### **Preparation for release**

Young men are helped to prepare for release back into the community.



## WHO DID THE INSPECTION?

Four Inspectorates worked together and looked at prison standards, health care and learning and skills.



## HOW DID WE RATE THE PRISON?

Hydebank Wood College and all prisons across England and Wales that hold young men are rated in the same way against Healthy Prison Tests. Inspectors look at all the evidence including lots of information, surveys and interviews with leaders, staff and young men in custody and decide how well a prison is performing.

### There are four ratings:



#### Good

Things are working well for young men in custody.



#### Reasonably good

Things are mostly working well but some things need to improve.



#### Not sufficiently good

Things are not working well. If nothing is done, these areas will become serious concerns.



#### Poor

Something needs to be done immediately.

## HEALTHY PRISON OUTCOMES

The ratings for Hydebank Wood Secure College against the Healthy Prison Tests



Hydebank Wood Secure College was continuing to perform well since the last inspection.

## EXAMPLES OF POSITIVE PRACTICE



We saw 10 things that Hydebank Wood Secure College was doing well and that other places could learn from.

These included:



**The work done by the Prisoner Safety and Support Team;**



**The one-to-one help given to young men on practical living skills;**



**The work that had been done with White Ribbon looking at reducing violence against women and girls; and**



**The use of animal husbandry and pet therapy to support wellbeing.**



## WHAT NEEDS TO IMPROVE?

**WHEN WE FIND SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO IMPROVE WE CALL THAT A CONCERN.**

WE IDENTIFIED SIX KEY CONCERNS:



The investigation of adult safeguarding concerns and serious complaints was not good enough.



The number of patients that could not attend outside hospital appointments was too high.



The prison didn't use information well enough to improve how it worked.



When force was used on young men, it was not always clear that it was necessary and reasonable.



The links between education skills and work and other support programmes could be better.



There was no arrangement for social care for young men that needed it.





# THE SURVEY RESULTS

When we visited most young men filled in our survey (86%). You can see all the results in the report that is in the library. You told us:

Compared to other places holding young men in England and Wales



85% said there were staff they could turn to if they had a problem.



37% said that the quality of the food was very or quite good and 33% said they got enough to eat at mealtimes.



80% said it was easy to make a request and of those who had, 79% said it had been dealt with fairly.



33% felt they got a very or quite good service from a doctor.



50% of those in Care and Supervision Unit said they could go outside for exercise every day.



63% said it was easy to communicate with their solicitor and 74% said it was easy to attend legal visits.



92% felt that the education they had received would help them on release.



59% said they were able to visit the library once a week or more





## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



We hope the Northern Ireland Prison Service, the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust and Belfast Metropolitan College will work to improve the things we said needed to change. Inspectors will come back to check how things are going.



**Criminal Justice Inspection  
Northern Ireland**  
*a better justice system for all*




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