

A children's guide

By

Spurgeons Invisible Walls

The Spurgeons team at HMP Winchester work inside and outside the prison supporting dads and their families.

What is Prison?

Some people say that it is a place where adults have to go for 'time out' but instead of sitting on a step or going to their room they have to do their 'time out' prison. All prisons are different in the way that they look, some are new and some are old. We understand that prison can be a strange and unknown place and maybe a little scary, especially if you don't know what it looks like inside.

Knowing that your dad is in HMP Winchester can leave you feeling lots of different emotions like sadness and anger and you may not want to talk about how you feel.

We have made this booklet to show and explain different places in the prison that your dad also sees too and together you can talk about them to help you understand a little more.

Circle one of the emoji faces below to show how you are feeling right now.

How are you feeling?



Happy



Joyful



Content



Silly



Sad



Angry



Scared



Worried



Confused



Surprised



Hurt



Embarrassed

Let's take a trip inside together...



Wooden entrance gates

This is the main entrance to the prison. When your dad arrived at HMP Winchester he came through these gates. You may have walked past them if you have been here for a visit.

Reception



This is the reception area where your dad came to be checked in to prison. The officers would have asked him if he was ok and he would have been able to make a phone call to let you all know where he was. He would then be given clothing and information to take with him.



Wings and landings



This is called a wing. In HMP Winchester we have A, B, C and D wing. Each of the wings has four landings or levels. They have long walkways with cells (rooms) all the way along on each side. You could ask your dad which wing he is on.

Cell or room



A cell is a room where your dad will spend a lot of his time. He has a sink, toilet, TV and a phone too. He can put up cards and pictures that you have sent him on his wall to make it nicer. Sometimes he can share with another man and they can sleep in bunkbeds or he can have a room on his own. Your dad will have a room like this. Maybe you can ask him about it.

Induction Room



The Induction in this room is where the men go on their first day in prison. An Induction officer explains all about the prison, what activities there are to do and when they can do them. They can answer lots of questions on how to do things like being able to phone you and have visits with you.



Places to go and things to do



Gym



Does your dad like exercising? Maybe he uses one of the gyms.

In the Weights Room he can use all the equipment or have a session in the Sports Hall and take part in team sports like football and volleyball.





Exercise yard



The exercise yard is an area outside, still in the prison that men can walk around everyday and get some fresh air.



Education



Prisons have schools/colleges in them too, so the men can take part in classes to learn different and sometimes new things. Is this classroom a bit like yours at school?

Jobs/Working



Kitchens



In HMP Winchester there are lots of different jobs that the men can do. It's good to work because it keeps people busy and they are able to earn some money.

Here are some of them.

Kitchens: Where the men help the staff cook all the meals for the whole prison and do all the washing up.

Gardens



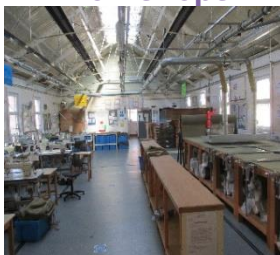
Gardens: The men working on the Gardens party make sure the outside areas are kept tidy, all the grass is cut and the flowers are looked after.

Wing work



Wing Work: Is a job on the wing that you live on that includes cleaning, painting, sorting the laundry and serving meals to the other men.

Workshops



Workshops: Are where the men work making a range of different things to be sent out to businesses. This workshop makes sandbags which are used all over the country to try and stop houses being flooded in the bad weather.

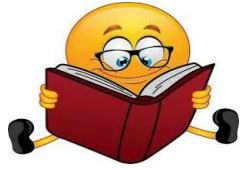
Orderlies



Orderlies: Are men who allowed to work in different areas around the prison to help other men and staff.

There are lots more..
Does your dad have a job in prison?
What does he do?

Library



The prison has a library that your dad can visit or order books or DVD's from if he likes reading or watching films. Why not ask you dad if he has been here and what films he has watched or books he has read.

Multi faith room/chapel



The multi faith space and chapel is a quiet place where men of differing religious beliefs, or none at all, are able to spend time thinking or praying. The men can also go there if they want to talk share things that are bothering them.



Healthcare



This is the prisons doctors' surgery.
The men can ask to see a doctor or a nurse if they are not feeling well.
There is also a dentist here too.

Purple Visits Room



Have you had a Purple Visit?
You and your dad can book a time with the prison to be able to face time each other. This is one of the rooms that he can have the visit in.



Visits Hall



This is where you can give your dad a hug and sit and talk to him. Some of the prison rules mean that your dad has to stay in his seat but you are allowed to sit with him.

There is an amazing play area where you can play or collect toys & games to take to the table to do with your dad. If you have already seen you dad in prison you will recognise these photos.



Some questions that children ask their dads about prison.

Q: What food do you eat?

A: The men in prison get a menu that they can pick from a small selection for their lunch and tea.

Breakfast-cereal and milk

Lunch-could be a sandwich and crisp or a sausage roll

Tea-could be fish, chips and beans or curry and rice with a pudding

Maybe you could ask your dad what he has ordered for his meals this week.

Q: Are their bars on your windows or doors?

A: Here is an example of the windows, they are made from special glass that is very strong and do not open but at both sides there are vents that can be opened to let the air in.



This is an example of a cell/room door. It isn't a lot different to the front door of a house, just stronger and with a small glass window.



After looking through this booklet circle one of the emoji's to show how you feel now.

How are you feeling?



Happy



Joyful



Content



Silly



Sad



Angry



Scared



Worried



Confused



Surprised



Hurt



Embarrassed

We really hope this booklet has helped to explain and show you different parts of the prison and to understand a bit more about where your dad is.

You may still have some worries, if you do, start by writing them down or drawing as many of them as you can think of in the bag below. They can be big, small or things that sound completely outrageous, it doesn't matter.



It's really good to talk about the things that are worrying you, no matter how big or small. Think about the people you can talk to, to help you empty out your bag of worries.

Mum
Dad
Brothers

Sisters
Grandparents
Aunts & Uncles

Teachers
Social Workers
Friends

Always remember that even though your dad is in prison he is still a part of your life and loves you.

