

- Communal areas appeared clean and staff described daily schedules for disinfecting common touch points such as cell door handles and gate locks. Recreational equipment was not always wiped down after use.
- Children received meals at their cell door. The interval between the cold evening meal and breakfast was too long.

Healthcare

- Partnership working between the prison, healthcare providers and commissioners was robust with good communication around the management of Covid 19 risks.
- Outbreak management processes were in place and healthcare staff had access to PPE.
- Most children were complimentary about the healthcare they had received. One child had recovered from Covid-19 and described receiving prompt medical attention.
- A daily primary care triage system remained in place including face to face appointments if necessary and access to a GP. Access to the dentist was for urgent care only.
- The health and wellbeing team had adapted well, prioritising high risk patients.
- Initial delays in obtaining some medication had been addressed effectively.

Purposeful activity

- All children were locked in their cells for more than 23 hours each day. Most children were offered 20 minutes of outdoor exercise and 20 minutes of activity on the landing. Activity sessions were occasionally removed by staff if a child seriously misbehaved.
- At least twice a week, PE staff facilitated activity on the sports field for each 'family group'. This support extended to children self-isolating for reasons other than illness.
- New arrivals in quarantine were only unlocked once a day on their own for 30 minutes exercise; children on the segregation unit got about 40 minutes out of their cells.
- All children had been issued with a games console.
- There were no education classes running in the prison and no youth workers on site.
- Children were given an education pack daily but few we spoke to found these engaging.

Resettlement

- Children were given £20 phone credit each week, sensibly issued in two instalments, so they could keep good contact with family and friends using their in-cell phone.
- Some children had received emails, but others were unaware of the 'email a prisoner' scheme. Letters reached children as normal, but parcels waited for infection control.
- Plans for video-calling were still in the early stages and had not been delivered yet.
- There was no multidisciplinary governance of release planning for high risk children.
- Progress to reduce the size of the population had been slow. A few children had been granted bail but nobody had been released under the Covid-19 early release scheme.
- We were told that nobody had been released without accommodation.
- There were good arrangements for healthcare to see children before release.
- If families were unable to collect children on release, the prison had paid for a taxi.

This paper represents the material gathered at a short scrutiny visit by HM Inspectorate of Prisons. The material is indicative only, and may be changed at the discretion of the Chief Inspector after due reflection or on the discovery of additional evidence. This material will form part of a report on how outcomes for prisoners are being managed in establishments of the same type during the COVID-19 crisis.