

# Have your say on how we inspect secure training centres in future

The young people's guide to the secure training centres consultation

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Ofsted are asking for your views about how we inspect secure training centres. We have come up with some ideas to make the inspections better and we want to know what you think.

Above all, we want to inspect in ways that make things better for young people.

How secure training centres are inspected can make a big difference to how they work with and treat young people. This is your chance to have your say about what is good about inspection and what you think is needed to make inspections better at improving the lives of young people living in secure training centres.

Ofsted needs the views of young people like you to understand how we can use inspection to make life better for young people living in secure training centres.

This consultation is open until 26 June 2012.

If you would like this in a different format like large print or Braille, phone 0300 123 1231 or email us on [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

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## Introduction

1. Ofsted wants your views on some ideas we have for inspecting secure training centres. We particularly want views from young people with experience of living in secure training centres.
2. We want to make sure that our inspections help to improve things by focusing on what is most likely to make things **better** for young people in secure training centres.
3. The Youth Justice Board is responsible for all this. They have asked us to develop better ways of inspecting secure training centres.
4. This could include inspection visits that are **joint** between Ofsted and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMI Prisons). We specialise in inspecting care and education, but HMI Prisons are experts in matters of criminal justice.
5. There are four secure training centres, which are for young offenders between 12 and 17 years old.
6. At the moment, these are inspected by Ofsted twice each year.

## The 'annual' inspection

7. One of these inspections is called the 'annual inspection'. It involves a team of social care inspectors who visit the centre for four days, and two education inspectors who visit for three days.

They look in detail at **standards** (these are what the government uses to tell secure training centres what they should be doing for young people) and **what happens for young people** (sometimes called outcomes).

## The 'interim' inspection

8. The other inspection is called the 'interim inspection' and involves inspectors visiting for two days. The inspectors use this visit to see what the centre is doing to help **keep young people safe** (under the 'staying safe' standards), and to check on how the centre is doing with any **recommendations from its last inspection**.
9. Ofsted will continue to lead inspections in future. We will look at:
  - behaviour management: this is everything the centre does to help young people improve their behaviour
  - the use of restraint: this is where staff can physically hold young people who may be out of control
  - single separations: this is where a young person is kept on their own away from the other young people

- sanctions: this is how young people are punished for misbehaving.
10. Inspectors spend time with young people in the units to find out their views about how they are looked after. In future, Ofsted will invite inspectors from HMI Prisons to join them.
  11. We want your views on our new arrangements for the inspection of secure training centres, which will start later this year.
  12. The consultation is open until 26 June 2012.

## Summary of judgements

13. Ofsted think that inspectors should make judgements on the:
  - **safety** of young people: how safe you are and how safe you feel
  - **behaviour** of young people: all that the centre does to help young people behave better
  - **well-being** of young people: how well you are looked after and how well you feel looked after
  - **achievement** of young people: what the centre does to help you achieve things in your life
  - **resettlement** of young people: how well young people settle back into society after they have left the secure training centre.

## Safety of young people

14. In particular, inspectors will look at whether:
  - young people travel in safe, decent conditions that meet their individual needs and are transported to and from court and between other secure facilities in a timely way
  - young people are kept and helped to feel safe:
    - when they arrive and are first introduced to the secure training centre (particularly during the first 24 hours)
    - from any harm, abuse and unfair treatment
    - by knowing that they are in a safe and secure place, taking account of each individual's needs
    - by knowing that there are appropriate, risk-assessed practices for carrying out searches
    - by knowing that any risk from self-harm or suicide will be spotted early and responded to
    - by knowing that they will be provided with the individual care and support that they need

- by knowing that there are checks in place (such as assessment, monitoring, independent checking and other measures) to tell how well the centre is performing.

## **Behaviour of young people**

15. In particular, inspectors will look at whether:

- young people are treated fairly
- behaviour is dealt with consistently in a way that encourages good behaviour and deals with unacceptable behaviour
- young people get support to change behaviour that gets them into trouble or upsets them and others
- good behaviour is promoted and rewarded, in a safe and helpful place
- Arrangements for 'safe' restraint and separation are in place
- restraint is only used as a last resort, where necessary and safe
- there is a shared respect between the young people, and in their relationships with staff.

## **Well-being of young people**

16. In particular, inspectors will look at whether:

- young people's health and general well-being is looked after, promoted and improved
- staff understand the different needs of young people in their care, including their physical, emotional, developmental and mental health needs
- young people's emotional needs are met, taking account of how vulnerable they may feel being away from home and their families
- young people's views are asked for often and used to inform how the centre works
- young people are treated as individuals by all staff, and take responsibility for their own actions and decisions
- young people are helped by key workers and case managers who relate to them, know their needs and have the skills and expertise to give them the support they need
- young people are treated fairly and equally; their differences are recognised, valued and celebrated
- young people have confidence in a complaints system that works for them and helps to keep them safe and treated fairly.

## Achievement of young people

17. In particular, inspectors will look at whether:
- young people enjoy happy lives where they feel useful and able to achieve through a range of available activities and opportunities
  - all young people take part in education (and training) that meets their individual needs
  - young people get the most out of education, training and assessment that is of a high standard, supports their learning needs and helps them develop
  - young people achieve things, meet their personal challenges and make progress (such as to further education, training or employment on release)
  - young people can build their knowledge, skills and understanding through leisure and learning
  - young people are tackling their offending behaviour, or other behaviours that upset them or others.

## Resettlement of young people

18. In particular, inspectors will look at whether:
- there is planning for a young person's release or transfer from the point of their arrival
  - young people are prepared for resettlement (that is leaving the centre to return home, to the community or to another establishment) through training plans and review of progress
  - others from outside the centre are fully involved to make sure that young people moving on to the community or to another establishment do so successfully
  - the centre takes account of what is known to work and reduce the likelihood of re-offending.

## Ideas that we would like your views on (consultation proposals)

### Joint inspection

19. So that Ofsted and HMI Prisons can inspect secure training centres together, they need to agree how they will judge how a centre is performing (having consulted with the Youth Justice Board).
20. Our idea is that secure training centres will be judged against the: safety; behaviour; well-being; achievement; and resettlement of young people (see paragraphs 13–18).

## **Making judgements**

21. When making our inspection judgements, we plan to use a four-point scale:
  - outstanding
  - good
  - adequate
  - inadequate.
22. Our idea is to use the four-point scale for each of our inspection judgements (on the safety; behaviour; well-being; achievement; and resettlement of young people).

## **Young people's views**

23. We want our inspections to focus on the experiences of young people in secure training centres. Both Ofsted and HMI Prisons have experience of getting the views of young people in similar establishments. Inspectors spend time talking to young people and getting a full picture of their experience.
24. At the moment, inspectors do not talk with young people who have recently left a secure training centre. However, we think this group of young people have many important messages they can give us about their time spent in the secure training centre and about how well prepared they were for moving on.
25. Our idea is for the inspection to include a survey of young people who currently live at the secure training centre. The inspector will spend time during their visits listening to young people's views. Where possible, inspectors will also speak to young people who have recently left the secure training centre.

## **Behaviour of young people**

26. Helping young people to improve their behaviour is an important part of their care in secure training centres. The use of restraint is only part of this, but it is very important. Restraint should only be used as the last resort when other ways of keeping young people safe, preventing damage or escape have failed.
27. As well as talking with young people, inspectors will look at the information the centre keeps to see how well it has been managing behaviour. This will include inspectors looking at how the centre uses restraint and single separation. They also look at details of any complaints and any child safety concerns.
28. Our idea is that inspectors will look at how effective the centre has been at managing behaviour, including helping young people improve their behaviour, and limiting how much it uses restraint and single separation.

## **Resettlement of young people (helping them when they move on from the centre)**

29. Inspectors will look into how well the secure training centre helps young people when it is time for them to leave. This will include looking at how the centre supports young people to make sure that they have a good move back to the community or another establishment. Secure training centres should be working with young people throughout their stay for when the time comes for them to move on.
30. Secure training centres work with youth offending teams, other agencies and young people's families and carers to plan their move on from the secure training centre.
31. We believe that as well as speaking with young people who live at the centre now, inspectors should try to get views from young people who have recently left, to understand how they were prepared for moving on.
32. Our idea is that inspectors will look at how well secure training centres work with youth offending teams, other agencies and young people's families to plan their move on from the secure training centre. In doing this, we will try to take account of the views of young people living in the secure training centre, and young people who have recently left.

## **Making recommendations**

33. Inspectors often make recommendations based on what they have found. At the next inspection, we check on any actions they have taken to address these.
34. Our idea is to follow up inspection recommendations the next inspection to see what action has been taken.

## **Equality and diversity**

35. Everyone in a secure training centre should be treated fairly and equally. Young people should not be treated differently because they have been in custody. Differences between young people should be recognised, valued and respected.
36. We think inspectors should look into whether young people are able to practice their own faiths and observe their own religious beliefs. They should also look to see: how the centre promotes equality and an understanding of people's differences; how discrimination is tackled; and whether the centre's policies and procedures encourage people to be treated fairly and equally.
37. Inspectors will report what they find out about young people's equality and differences, with specific attention to the Well-being of young people judgement area.

38. Our idea is to report what we find out about young people's equality and differences across all the inspection judgement areas, with a focus on the Well-being of young people.

## **How the consultation works**

39. We want to know your views on our ideas and on any part of how secure training centres are inspected. You can use the comments section in the questionnaire to bring up anything not covered by our questions. The consultation is open until 26 June 2012.
40. We will meet with a range of representative groups and with young people who are or have been in a secure training centre.

## **What happens next?**

41. We will publish a report on the responses to this consultation in August 2012.
42. In August we will publish a new framework and evaluation schedule for the inspection of secure training centres, taking full account of the responses to this consultation.

## **Sending back your questionnaire**

43. There are three ways to complete and send us the questionnaire and/or your comments.

### **Online electronic questionnaire**

44. Visit our website to complete and submit an electronic version of the questionnaire: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/ofsted-stc2012cyp](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ofsted-stc2012cyp).

### **Download and email**

45. You can download this document and fill it in on your own computer. When you have finished, email it to: [socialcare@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:socialcare@ofsted.gov.uk). Please put 'Secure training centre inspection consultation' in the subject line.

### **Print and post**

46. You can print this document and fill it in by hand. When you have finished, post it to:

Ofsted, Social Care Development Team  
Floor 7  
Aviation House  
125 Kingsway  
London  
WC2B 6SE.

## The consultation questions

Q1. Our idea is that secure training centres will be judged against the: safety; behaviour; well-being; achievement; and resettlement of young people (see paragraphs 13–19).

Do you agree with our plans to judge secure training centres on these areas?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you have any comments or suggestions?

Q2. Our idea is to use the four-point scale of outstanding, good, adequate and inadequate for each of our inspection judgements (on the: safety; behaviour; well-being; achievement; and resettlement of young people).

Do you agree with our plans to use the four-point scale for our inspection judgements?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you have any comments or suggestions?

Q3. Our idea is for the inspection to include a survey of young people who currently live at the secure training centre. The inspector will spend time during their visits listening to young people's views. Where possible, inspectors will also speak to young people who have recently left the secure training centre.

Do you agree with our plans to focus on getting young people's views?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you agree that we should try to get the views of young people who have recently left the secure training centre?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you have any comments or suggestions?

Q4. Our idea is that inspectors will look at how effective the centre has been at managing behaviour, including helping young people improve their behaviour, and limiting how much it uses restraint and single separation.

Do you agree with our plan to look at how effective the centre has been at managing behaviour?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you have any comments or suggestions?

Q5. Our idea is that inspectors will look at how well secure training centres work with youth offending teams, other agencies and young people’s families to plan their move on from the secure training centre. In doing this, we will try to take account of the views of young people living in the secure training centre, and young people who have recently left.

Do you agree with our plans for looking at how well the centre prepares young people for moving on?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you have any comments or suggestions?

Q6. Our idea is to follow up inspection recommendations the next inspection to see what action has been taken.

Do you agree with our plans for making and following up on recommendations?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you have any comments or suggestions?

Q7. Our idea is to report what we find out about young people's equality and differences across all the inspection judgement areas, with a focus on the well-being of young people.

Do you agree with our plans for reporting on what we find out about equality and diversity in inspections?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you have any comments or suggestions?

Q8. Do you have anything else you would like to say about our ideas for the inspection of secure training centres in the future, or other suggestions that you would like to make?

What do you think about the questions you have answered?

- They were easy to understand and answer.
- I didn't understand what they were about.
- Some bits were easier to follow than others.

Have you received help from someone to fill this in?

Yes  No

Thank you for completing this form.

## Some questions about you

We just want to check which groups of people are answering our questions. We will not pass on these answers to anyone else (unless you write something about you or someone else being in some sort of danger – then we would need to pass that on to the right people to try and sort it out).

You do not have to answer any of these questions if you don't want to.

We are only asking you for your name in case you have written something that makes us think you might be in some sort of danger.

Your name:

In these next questions, please just tick the box that is right for you.

### 1. My gender

I am a girl	<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a boy	<input type="checkbox"/>
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### 2. My age is:

12–13	14–15	16–17
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 3. My ethnic background

Just tick one box that best describes you.

<b>Asian</b>		<b>Mixed ethnic origin</b>	
Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian and White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black African and White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black Caribbean and White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other Asian background (tell us if you want to)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other mixed ethnic background (tell us if you want to)	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Black</b>		<b>White</b>	
African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any White background (tell us if you want to)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Any other ethnic background</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any other Black background (tell us if you want to)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other background (tell us if you want to)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Chinese</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any Chinese background (tell us if you want to)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

#### 4. Disability

Do you think you are disabled?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Thank you.