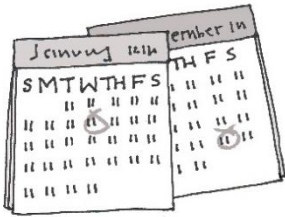
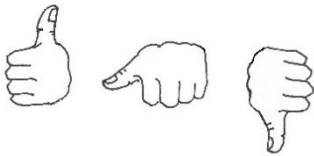




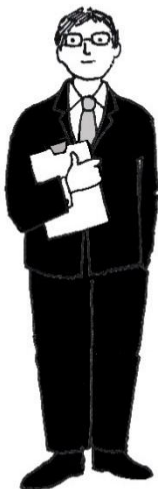
# Inspection of HMP Altcourse



Inspectors visited this prison in July 2025.



We wanted to find out if things were better, the same or worse for prisoners since we last visited in 2021.



Inspectors did this by:

- looking around the prison
- asking prisoners and staff to fill in a paper survey
- speaking to prisoners
- speaking to staff and helpers
- reading documents.

# What did we find?



## **Safety: 2 out of 4**

- Too many prisoners were harming themselves and needed more support.
- There were too many drugs in the prison.
- The prison was not doing enough to sort out the problems with violence.



## **Respect: 3 out of 4**

- Prisoners did not get enough to eat at mealtimes.
- There were not enough health care staff.



## **Things to do: 1 out of 4**

- There were not enough education and work spaces.
- Too many prisoners did not have jobs.



## **Getting ready to leave prison: 3 out of 4**

- Too many prisoners left Altcourse without a place to live.
- There was good support to help prisoners see their family and learn parenting skills.

## What should the prison do?



We want the governor to read the report we wrote about HMP Altcourse and make a plan.

The plan should tell us how they will fix the problems at HMP Altcourse and make things better for prisoners.



You can find the report we wrote in the prison library.

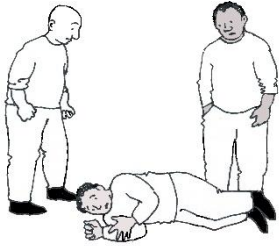
## What do we want to happen?



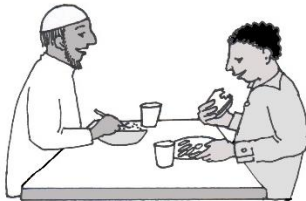
We want the prison to do more to stop prisoners harming themselves.



We want the prison to sort out the problem with drugs.



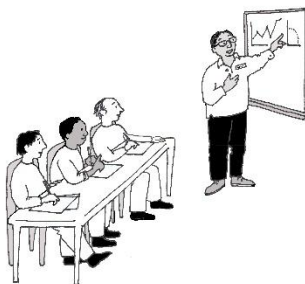
We want there to be less violence. We want prisoners to feel safe.



We want prisoners to get enough to eat. We want the food to be better.



We want there to be more health care staff. We want prisoners' medicines to be given out safely.



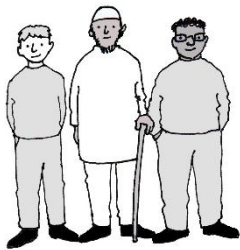
We want there to be enough spaces in education and work for all prisoners.



We want prisoners to be able to get qualifications. We want prisoners to get information about the skills they have learned.



We want prisoners to spend less time in reception when they first arrive at Altcourse.



We want all prisoners to be treated fairly.

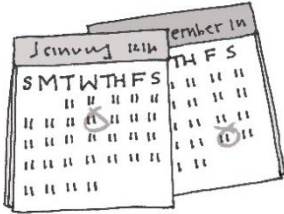


We want patients who are mentally unwell to get to hospital more quickly.



We want prisoners to have somewhere to live when they leave Altcourse.

# What will we do?



We will come back in a few years to check how well the prison is doing. We will write a report to tell people what we find.



If you have any questions, please write to us:

HM Inspectorate of Prisons  
3rd floor  
10 South Colonnade  
Canary Wharf  
London  
E14 4PU