Youth Justice Board
Bwrdd Cyfiawnder Ieuenctid

Have your say!

The Government wants to help children and young people to stop committing crime. To do this they are looking at ways to improve the youth justice system. They also want to stop people becoming victims of crime committed by people aged under 18.

The Youth Justice Board (YJB) is an organisation which supports the youth justice system. The YJB is helping the Government by collecting views and ideas from children and young people with experience of youth crime. Your views will support the Government to make decisions about changes that need to be made.

If you are aged 21 or under and you've had experience of the youth justice system or youth crime, then this is **your chance** to tell the Government about the things that matter to you, and let them know how they could do things differently.

About the questions

- If you find it difficult to read and write in English please ask an adult to help you.
- We don't ask for your name and don't know who you are.
- There are no right or wrong answers, we are only interested in learning about your opinions and ideas.
- What you tell us is private. When we tell the Government about the views of young people, we won't say anything that would show who answered our questions.
- The questions should take you around 15 - 20 minutes.
- You don't have to answer any questions that you don't want to.
- What you tell us will help the Government to plan the work they need to do to stop children and young people committing crime, and improve the lives of children and young people in the youth justice system.
- If anything in the questions upsets you speak to an adult you trust, or call ChildLine on 0800 1111, or visit https://www.childline.org.uk/Pages/Home.aspx
- If you or an adult wants to ask about these questions, they can contact us on 020 3334 5300.

Questions

1. We are interested to hear about your experiences, have you…

(please tick all that apply to you)

- ☐ been the witness of a crime?
- ☐ been the victim of a crime?
- ☐ pleaded guilty to committing a crime?
- ☐ been accused of committing a crime?
- ☐ been convicted of committing a crime?
- ☐ been none of the above
- ☐ Prefer not to say

2. What are the <u>three</u> most important things for helping children and young people to stop committing crime?

- ☐ Help with education
- ☐ Help with finding a job
- ☐ Help with family problems
- ☐ Help to stop drinking or taking drugs
- ☐ Help to cope with peer pressure
- ☐ Someone to listen and talk about problems with
- ☐ More information about what happens to children and young people who commit crime
- ☐ Harsher punishments
- ☐ Other (please write below)

_____

_____

3. What <u>three</u> qualities are the most important for adults who work with young people who commit crime?

- ☐ Knowing how to deal with difficult behaviour
- ☐ Knowing about children's rights
- ☐ Knowing about how children grow and develop
- ☐ Being able to talk to children and young people
- ☐ Special knowledge about police, the courts and prisons
- ☐ Listening skills
- ☐ Non-judgemental
- ☐ Wanting to work with children and young people
- ☐ Other (please write below)

_____
_____

4. What <u>three</u> things are the most important for helping children and young people in their learning?

- ☐ Technology (e.g an iPad)
- ☐ Help with family problems
- ☐ Help with behaviour problems
- ☐ Help with emotional problems
- ☐ To be working towards a goal
- ☐ Help with reading, writing and numeracy
- ☐ Outstanding teachers
- ☐ Help to pay for fees/ materials/ travel etc.
- ☐ Help to apply to schools/ colleges/ apprenticeships
- ☐ Other (please write below)

_____
_____

5. In the next 3 years, I think I will…

	Yes	No	Maybe
Be in trouble with the police	☐	☐	☐
Continue my education and training	☐	☐	☐
Have positive relationships with my family and friends	☐	☐	☐
Have a job	☐	☐	☐

6. Have you been to a court?

(please tick all that apply to you)

- ☐ Yes, I went to court because I was accused of committing a crime.
- ☐ Yes, I went to court as a witness
- ☐ A family member/ friend had to go to court and I went with them.
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

7. Who went to court with you?

(please tick all that apply to you)

- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Carer
- ☐ Social worker
- ☐ Friend
- ☐ Other (please write below)

_____

_____

8. Who gave you information or help to understand what was happening in court?

(please tick all that apply to you)

- ☐ YOT worker
- ☐ Solicitor
- ☐ Barrister
- ☐ Magistrates
- ☐ Judges
- ☐ Court staff
- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Guardian
- ☐ Friend
- ☐ Family
- ☐ Social worker
- ☐ No-one
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Other (please write below)

_____
_____

9. Do you know what the role of the judge or magistrate is in court?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

<u>If you answered 'No' or 'Don't know' please skip to question 11</u>

10. Can you tell us what the role of the judge or magistrate is in court?

_____
_____
_____

11. Did you understand what was said in court?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

12. Did you feel confident to ask the adults in court if you needed more information?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other (please write below)

_____
_____

13. Do you think the adults in court understood how you felt?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

14. How could the court be made better?

_____
_____
_____

15. Did you receive a sentence from the court?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Prefer not to say

<u>If you answered ‘No’, ‘Don’t know’ or ‘Prefer not to say’ please skip to question 18</u>

16. Do you think that the sentence you received was fair?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Prefer not to say

17. Why do you think that?

_____
_____
_____

18. When the magistrate or judge sentences children and young people, what <u>three</u> things do you think are the most important? Asking young people to:

- ☐ Do education or training
- ☐ Get help with emotional problems
- ☐ Get help for drug or alcohol use
- ☐ Spend time in prison
- ☐ Pay a fine
- ☐ Obey a curfew or only go to particular places/areas
- ☐ Work with services like the youth offending team (YOT) to help them stop offending.
- ☐ Get support to understand the impact of their crime
- ☐ Do unpaid community work
- ☐ Get help to learn new skills
- ☐ Talk with the victim of their crime
- ☐ Other (please write below)

  _____
  _____

19. Do you think it would be helpful for children and young people to meet with the judge or magistrate after they are sentenced to talk about how the sentence is going?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

<u>If you answered 'Don't know' please skip to question 21</u>

20. Why do you think that?

_____
_____
_____

21. If the victim and offender both agree, do you think that children and young people who commit crime should meet and speak to the victims of their crime, so they can apologise and explain what happened?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Only in some circumstances
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

22. Do you think the victims of crime should help make decisions about the sentences that children and young people get?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Only for some types of crime/ in some circumstances
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

23. Do you think children and young people who commit crime should get a criminal record for the rest of their lives?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Only for some types of crime/ in some circumstances
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Prefer not to say

24. Are you...

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to say

25. How old are you?

- ☐ 10 - 12
- ☐ 13 - 15
- ☐ 16 - 18
- ☐ 19 - 21

26. Do you understand spoken and written English?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Some

27. Do you understand written and spoken Welsh?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Some

28. Which of the following groups would you say you belonged to?

- ☐ White British
- ☐ Other White background
- ☐ Black British - Black African
- ☐ Black British - Black Caribbean
- ☐ Other Black background
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Asian British Indian
- ☐ Asian British Pakistani
- ☐ Asian British Bangladeshi
- ☐ Other Asian background
- ☐ Mixed Background
- ☐ Arab
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other (please write below)

_____
_____

29. Would you say that you have a disability?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

30. Have you ever been in care (looked after)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Thank you for completing our survey!

Your views are very important to us.