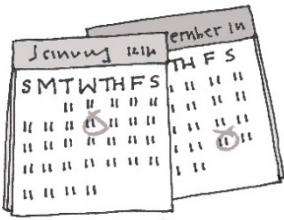
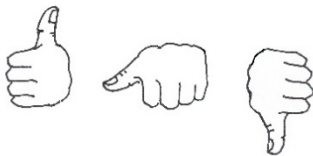




Inspection of HMP Bedford



Inspectors visited this prison in October and November 2023.



We wanted to find out if things were better, the same or worse for prisoners since we last visited in 2022.



We did this by:

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

What did we find?



Prisoners did not feel safe. There was too much violence.

We gave the prison 1 out of 4 for this.



Living conditions were bad. Prisoners did not get enough help from staff.

We gave the prison 1 out of 4 for this.



Prisoners spent too long locked up with nothing to do. Education was poor.

We gave the prison 1 out of 4 for this.



Prisoners did not get enough help to get ready to leave HMP Bedford.

We gave the prison 2 out of 4 for this.

What should the prison do?



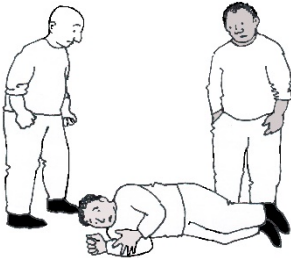
We want the governor to read our inspection report. You can find the report in the prison library.

We want the governor to make a plan. The plan should tell us how they will fix the problems at HMP Bedford and make things better for prisoners.

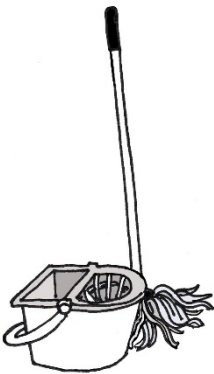
What do we want to happen?



We want prisoners to get more mental health support. We want prisoners who might harm themselves to get better care.



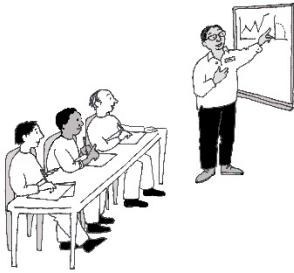
We want the prison to do more to stop violence and racism.



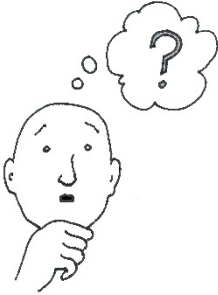
We want the prison to make sure cells are clean and broken things are fixed. We want the problem with rats and cockroaches to be sorted out.



We want prisoners to have more time out of their cells.



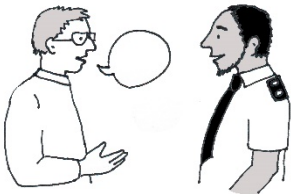
We want all prisoners to be able to go to education and work. We want education and work to be better.



We want prisoners who have just arrived at Bedford to get more information and support.



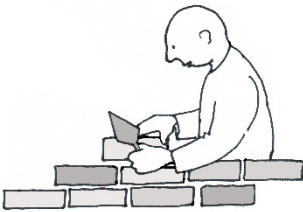
We want the prison to make sure staff use force on prisoners safely, and only when they need to.



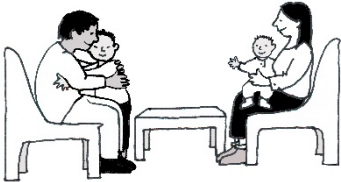
We want staff to listen to prisoners and help them sort out their problems. We want prisoners to have an officer who supports them.



We want medicine to be given out safely and on time.



We want prisoners to get better advice and information about jobs and careers.

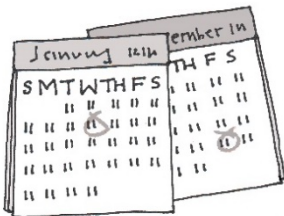


We want prisoners to be able to see and speak to their family and friends. We want them to get their letters on time.



We want staff to help prisoners find somewhere to live before they leave the prison.

What will we do?



We will come back next year 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:



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