



Children in custody 2022–23

An analysis of 12–18-year-olds' perceptions of their experiences in secure training centres and young offender institutions

November 2023

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Introduction

Since 2001 HM Inspectorate of Prisons has carried out a survey of all children living in young offender institutions (YOIs) and secure training centres (STCs) across England and Wales. In 2022–23 83% of children responded, providing an unrivalled insight into their perceptions of treatment and conditions in custody.

The message is clear: the progress delivered immediately after the COVID-19 pandemic has stalled and in key areas things have got worse. Just 46% of children reported feeling cared for by staff, and 32% of children did not have a single member of staff they trusted to help them if they had a problem. This is concerning not only because children in prison rely on staff for every aspect of day-to-day life, but because there is a link between good, trusting relationships and effective behaviour management.

Findings from our inspections show the key challenge in both YOIs and STCs is to reduce the conflict and violence that prevent children from spending time out of their cells in purposeful activity, including education and offending behaviour interventions. In this context it is unsurprising that just 55% of children thought their experiences of custody made them less likely to offend in the future.

This report highlights the impact of several years of failings in children's custody. Despite the significant resources at their disposal, leaders in the Youth Custody Service are unable to guarantee basic services for children. Many spend most of their sentence locked up alone in their cell with very little human contact. Despite employing hundreds of staff and dozens of managers, most sites are unable to deliver one meaningful conversation with each child a week. Given these circumstances it is unsurprising that most do not feel cared for by staff and few are motivated to behave well.

Addressing these failings will require an absolute focus on rebuilding the trusting relationships that are fundamental to managing behaviour successfully and addressing conflict. If this is not achieved institutions holding children will continue to be characterised by unpredictable violence, unwieldy keep apart lists and long periods of lock up.

Charlie Taylor
Chief Inspector of Prisons
October 2023

Background

Children in custody are held in one of three settings: secure training centres (STCs), young offender institutions (YOIs) or secure children's homes (SCHs). STCs hold children aged between 12 and 18 years. YOIs hold children aged between 15 and 18 years old. SCHs are run by local authorities or other providers and can hold children aged between 10 and 17. As well as those held on youth justice grounds, SCHs can also house those detained for welfare reasons under Section 25 of the Children Act. Girls can be held in SCHs, Wetherby YOI or Oakhill STC.

This report draws from surveys and independent reviews of progress (IRPs) carried out by HMI Prisons in five YOIs and one STC in England and Wales in 2022–23, along with published statistics. The IRPs followed full inspections of these establishments in 2021–22 and were designed to provide an independent assessment of how far they had implemented the recommendations from the inspections.

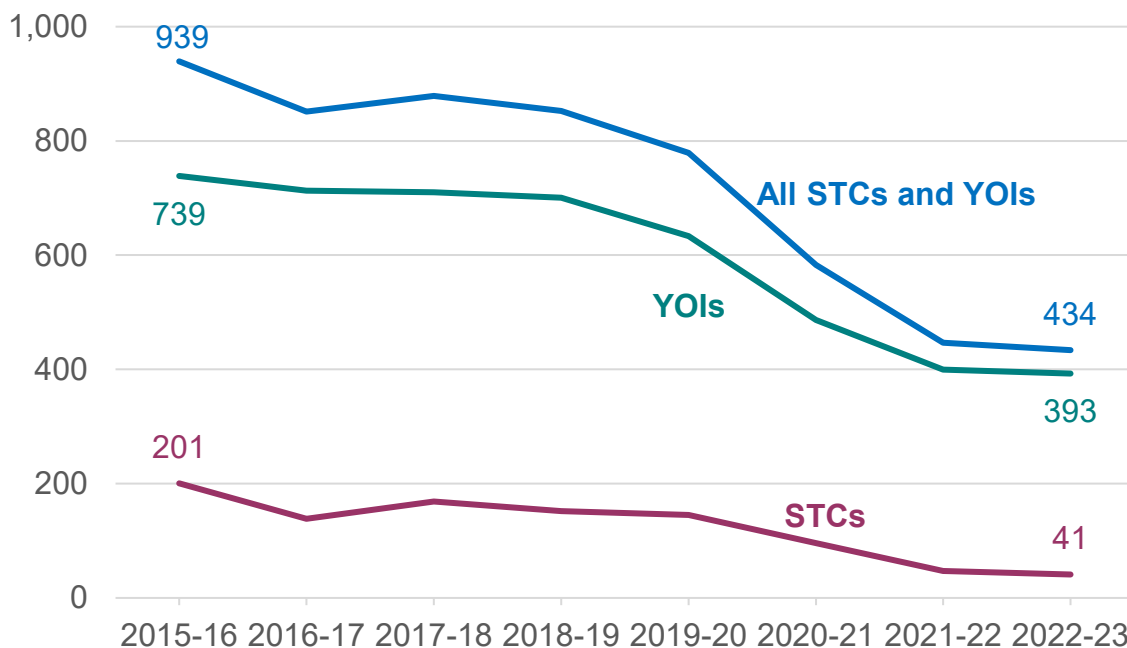
HMI Prisons has no remit to inspect SCHs; this statutory responsibility rests with Ofsted in England and, in Wales, with Care Inspectorate Wales and Estyn. However, many of the Youth Custody Service-published statistics quoted in this report include children held in SCHs, who make up 14% of the children in custody.

The number of children held in STCs and YOIs has continued to decline, although the fall in 2022–23 is less pronounced than in previous years. The average population of children and young people held in both types of establishment (which includes some who are over 18) was 434 in 2022–23, compared with 939 in 2015–16.

This meant that all sites were continuing to operate at well below capacity. The low population had the effect of improving staff-to-child ratios in all settings.

Figure 1: STC and YOI populations continue to fall, although the fall has slowed in the latest year.

England and Wales, includes 18-year-olds



Source: Youth Custody Report, June 2023

This report focuses on:

- the children held and their experiences in custody
- their perceptions of care and the links to behaviour management in custody
- how the youth estate is recovering from the pandemic.

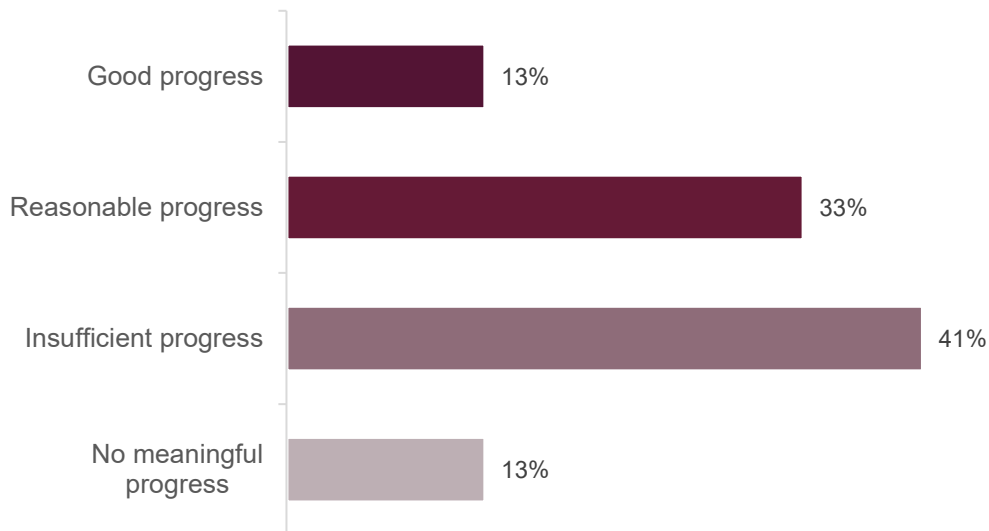
Any differences in survey findings quoted in this report are statistically significant unless stated otherwise. The full findings from our surveys of children in custody are available on our website.

Overview of IRP findings

In 2022–23 we carried out five independent reviews of progress, following up 39 concerns we identified at our previous inspections. We found leaders had made no meaningful progress in addressing five of the concerns, insufficient progress in 16, reasonable progress in 13 and good progress in five. Ofsted followed up 14 concerns and found insufficient progress in four, reasonable progress in nine and significant progress in one.

Figure 2: More than half of concerns followed up in HMI Prisons reports were not adequately addressed.

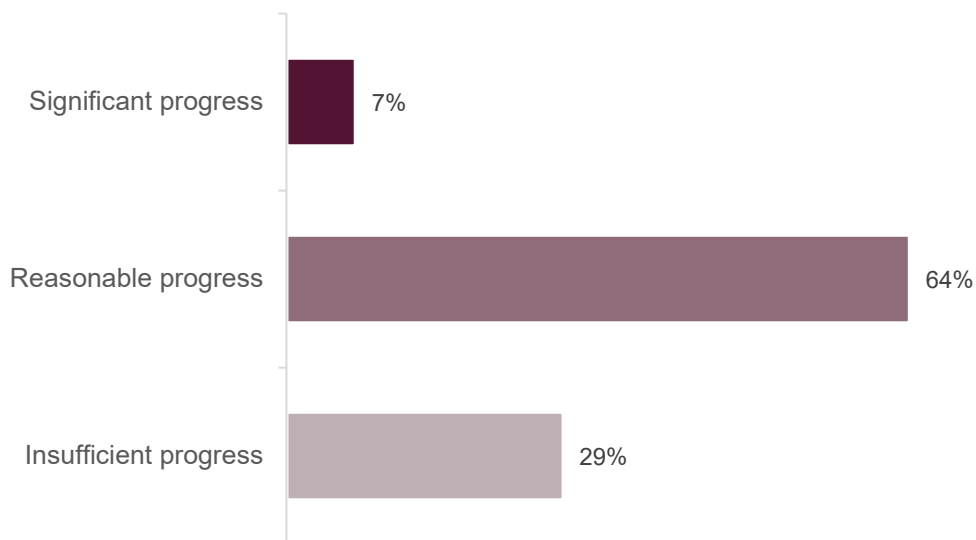
HMI Prisons independent reviews of progress at YOIs in England and Wales in 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons IRP reports

Figure 3: Reasonable progress against more than half of the themes followed up Ofsted in HMI Prison reports.

HMI Prisons independent reviews of progress at YOIs in England and Wales in 2022–23

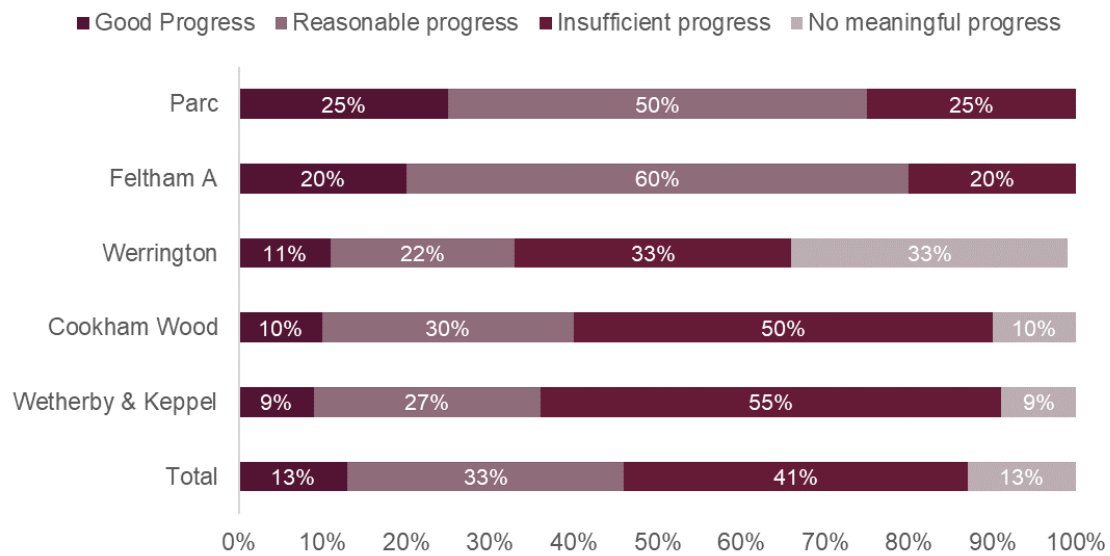


Source: HMI Prisons IRP reports

This mixed progress masks large differences, both between YOIs and across our expectations. At Parc YOI progress was assessed as reasonable or better in three out of four areas, while at Werrington YOI this was true for just four of the 12 concerns we followed up.

Figure 4: Mixed progress in IRPs across YOIs in England and Wales.

HMI Prisons independent reviews of progress at YOIs in England and Wales in 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons IRP reports

Leaders had been successful in making progress in resettlement outcomes for children; at Cookham Wood YOI release on temporary licence (ROTL) was now well managed, and children at Feltham YOI were given more support to get education, training or employment on release.

Ofsted found that leaders had made progress in improving the quality of education, but this was fundamentally undermined by an inability to address issues in behaviour management, where progress was insufficient against all five concerns. The weaknesses in addressing conflict and incentivising good behaviour meant that most YOIs were still dominated by violence and the practice of keeping children apart to minimise conflict. This was a primary reason for the lack of progress in improving time out of cell, and meant that many children were simply unable to access the improving education offer.

Similarly, we found there had been very limited progress to make sure that children from different backgrounds were treated fairly. This is a particular concern given the diverse backgrounds of children in custody.

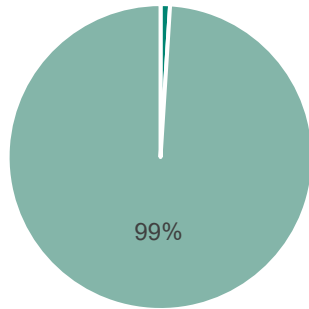
Section 1 Children in custody and their treatment

Who are the children in custody?

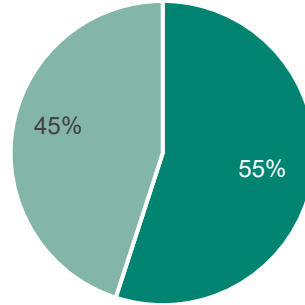
1.1 Children in custody tend to be male, are more likely than children in the general population to be from ethnic groups other than white, and are more likely to have been in local authority care. A large proportion report that they have health problems and 12% report having children of their own.

1.2 Of the children we surveyed in STCs and YOIs in 2022–23:

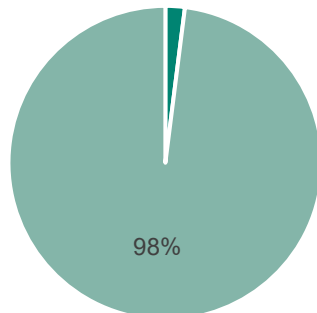
- Most were aged 15–18. Only 1% of children reported being under 15 years of age.



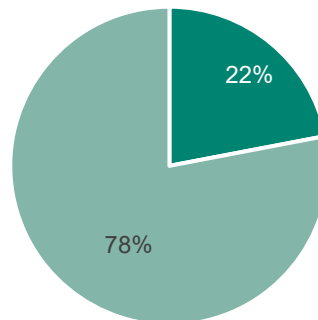
- Over half (55%) reported being from a minority ethnic background.



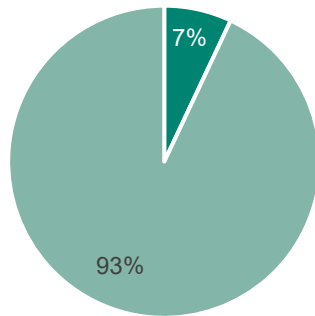
- Just 2% were girls.



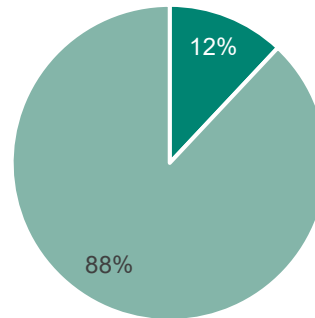
- 22% of the children reported being Muslim.



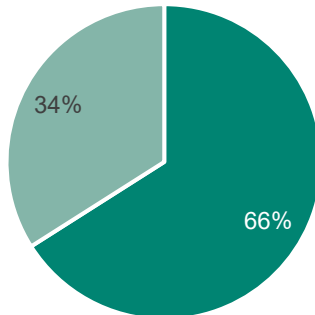
- 7% identified as being from a Traveller community.



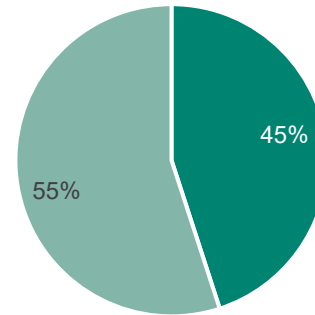
- 12% reported having children themselves.



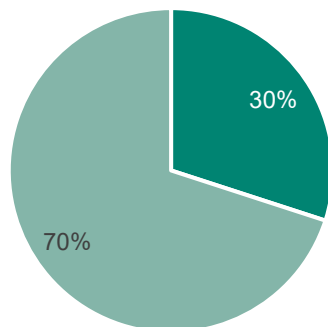
- 66% reported having been in local authority care.



- 45% reported having health problems.



- 30% said they had a disability.



Source: HMI Prisons detainee surveys

1.3 Youth Custody Service statistics for 2022–23 show that 65% of children in custody had been sentenced for a violence against the person offence – this compares to just 33% in 2015–16. Children in custody were more likely to be there on remand than any other legal basis (42% in 2022–23). They continued to be placed too far from their homes, separated from support that friends and family can offer: 39% were placed 50 or more miles from their home in 2022–23.

1.4 The overall number of children in custody has been falling over the last decade, in part due to the success of diversion schemes. This has meant fewer children have come into contact with the criminal justice

system and those who do are more likely to receive community sentences. The significant falls in population associated with reduced court activity in during the COVID-19 pandemic have slowed as the courts have reopened.

- 1.5 With this changing population comes increased challenges for the establishments that care for these children. Youth Custody Service statistics show that:
- There was an overall rise in the rate of assault incidents involving children and young people in STCs and YOIs of 28% (from 311 assaults per 100 children in 2020–21 to 399 in 2021–22). This differed by establishment type:
 - YOIs had lower assault rates than STCs, but saw a 30% increase to 297 assaults per 100 children in the last year, from 229 in 2020–21
 - STCs had higher assault rates than YOIs with an assault rate of 1,214 per 100 children in 2021–22.
 - The rate of self-harm continued to increase, by 37% in the last year to 250 self-harm incidents per 100 children in 2021–22. Again, this varied by establishment type, with STCs also having higher self-harm rates than YOIs (770 incidents per 100 children in 2021–22 compared with 185 in YOIs).

Children not treated fairly

- 1.6 Last year we identified shortcomings in equality and diversity provision at every YOI. Too often, leaders were unable to identify effectively or address potential discrimination. It was disappointing to find that in 2022–23 only Feltham had made reasonable progress in making sure children with protected characteristics were treated fairly while in custody, despite their prevalence within YOIs.

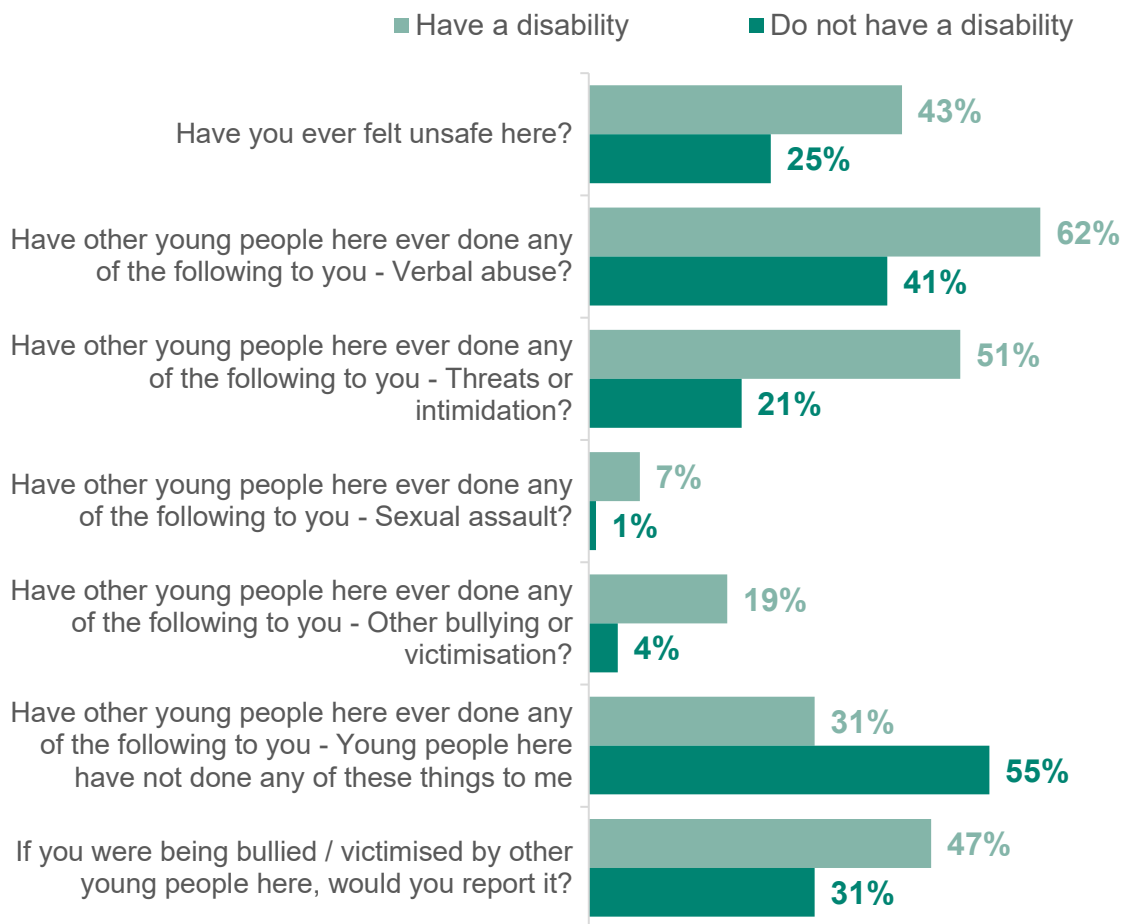
‘An equality and diversity team had been recruited, but no meaningful work had been undertaken since our last inspection. There was a draft equality and diversity policy, but no date for its implementation, and there was no action plan. There was a lack of focus in this area.’ **Cookham Wood YOI**

‘The equality adviser had continued to collect data on disproportionality across a range of areas, for example violence, use of force and adjudications. However, when disproportionality was identified, no investigation or action was carried out.’ **Werrington YOI**

- 1.7 Our survey highlights the difference in how custody is experienced by children with protected characteristics. Children with disabilities were more negative about life in custody than those who did not have a disability: 80% of children with disabilities reported having a problem on arrival in custody, compared with 64% of their peers; they were also

more likely to report having a drug problem when they entered custody. The key difference was that children with disabilities were much more likely to tell us that they had felt unsafe and had experienced victimisation than other children. While most of this victimisation was verbal in nature, we were concerned to find that 7% of children with disabilities reported having been sexually assaulted while in custody. In every case HMI Prisons referred these children's details to the prison safeguarding team for investigation. More positively, children with disabilities were also more likely to report being victimised to staff.

Figure 5: Children with a disability report more negative experiences of safety.
STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23



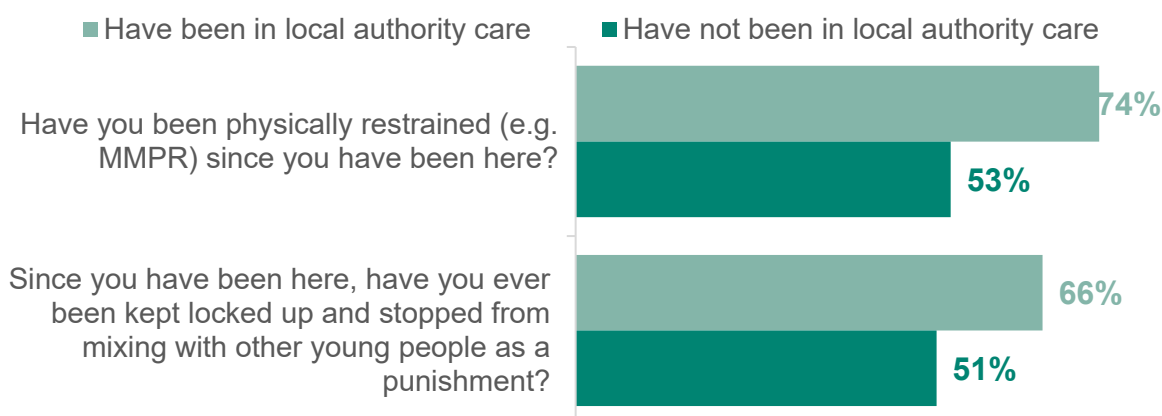
Source: HMI Prisons detainee surveys

1.8 Children from a Gypsy, Roma or Traveller background continued to be the most overrepresented group in custody: 7% of children in custody identify as Gypsy, Roma or Traveller compared with under 1% of 12–17 year-olds in the community (community figures taken from [Detailed ethnic group by age and sex in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics](#)). These children were less likely to report feeling safe when they arrived in custody and 57% reported having felt unsafe during their time in custody, compared with 28% of children who were not from this background.

- 1.9 There are very few girls held in custody at any one time. Only eight girls filled out a survey during 2022–23 and data from their responses can therefore not be compared with that from boys. However:
- Seven of the eight girls reported having been in local authority care.
 - Just one of the girls said she spent more than two hours out of her cell at the weekend.
 - Only one girl said it was quiet enough to relax or sleep at night.
 - While three of the girls reported having felt unsafe, experience of victimisation was mostly limited to threats and verbal abuse and none of the girls reported being a victim of theft, violence or sexual assault.
 - Neither of the two girls who had a drug or alcohol problem reported that they had received help while they were in custody.
- 1.10 Looked after children made up 66% of those who completed the questionnaire, and were more likely to report having health problems (52% compared with 32% non-looked after children). They were also more likely to have experienced restraint and being separated from their peers while in custody.

Figure 6: Children who have been in local authority care are more likely to be restrained and separated.

STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23

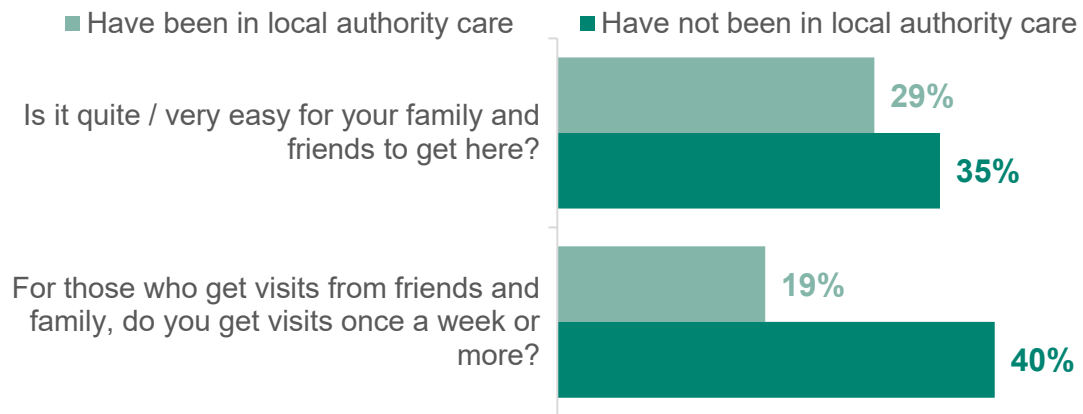


Source: HMI Prisons detainee surveys

- 1.11 While looked after children were more likely to report being able to use the phone every day if they had credit, they were less likely to receive weekly social visits than non-looked after children. This was true even though there was no significant difference between the two groups in whether they said it was easy for their family and friends to visit them.

Figure 7: Children who have been in local authority care have a mixed experience of contact with family and friends.

STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

1.12 Children from an ethnic group other than white continued to make up over half the population. These children were less likely to report having a disability or drug problem than their white counterparts. They were also less likely to report that staff would explain what they had done wrong if they got in trouble.

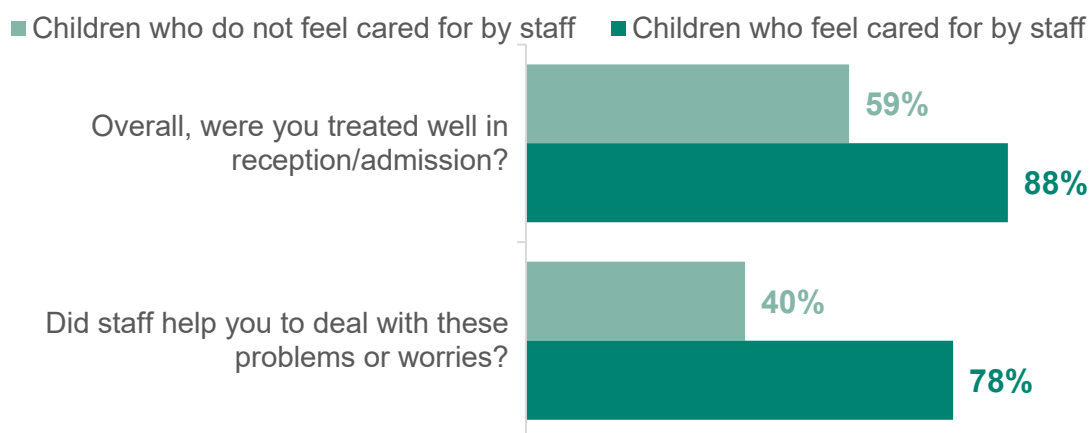
Section 2 Children’s perceptions of care

Fewer children feel cared for

- 2.1 After an improvement in relationships between staff and children in 2021–22, there was a significant reduction this year in the number of children who reported feeling cared for by staff. Just 46% of children said they felt cared for and only 68% reported that there was a member of staff they could turn to for help. This was despite all sites continuing to operate at well below capacity and the fact that the low population had improved staff-to-child ratios in all settings. Children in custody rely on staff for every aspect of daily life. Positive, effective relationships between staff and children are the foundation of good outcomes in all four of our healthy prison tests.
- 2.2 Children who reported not feeling cared for by staff were less likely to report positively about staff treating them well when they arrived at the establishment. Fewer of these children who arrived with problems said that they were helped by staff.

Figure 8: Children who reported not feeling cared for were less positive about how they were treated on arrival.

STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

- 2.3 They were also less likely to report that staff had helped them to keep in touch with their families, encouraged them to attend education or helped them to prepare for release.

Figure 9: Children who reported not feeling cared for felt they got less support from staff.
STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23

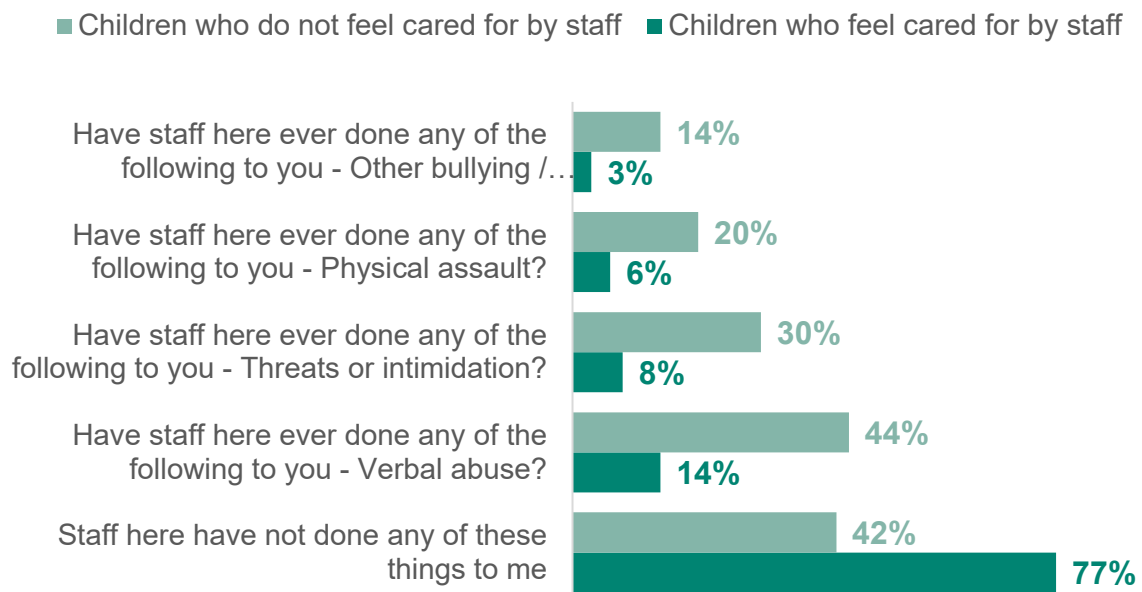


Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

2.4 As well as consistently feeling less supported, these children reported more victimisation from staff than their counterparts.

Figure 10: Children who reported not feeling cared for experienced higher levels of victimisation from staff.

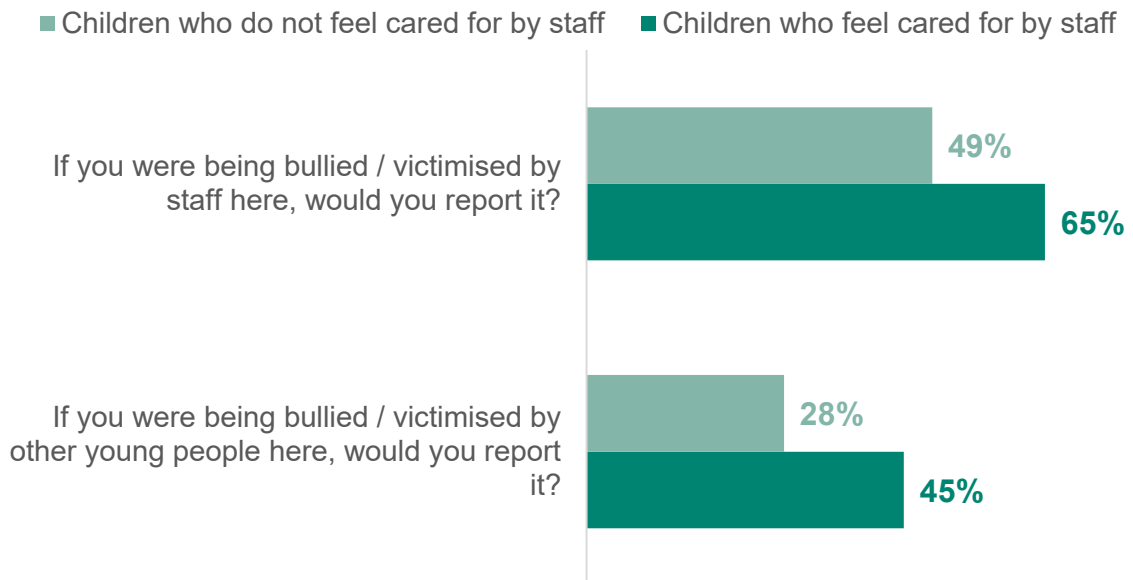
STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

2.5 This group of children were also more likely to report that they had felt unsafe in their current establishment (37% compared with 23%). Given this, and their perceptions about victimisation by staff, it was concerning that they were unlikely to trust staff enough to report any victimisation or bullying that they experienced.

Figure 11: Children who do not feel cared for by staff were less likely to report any bullying/victimisation that they experienced.
STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23

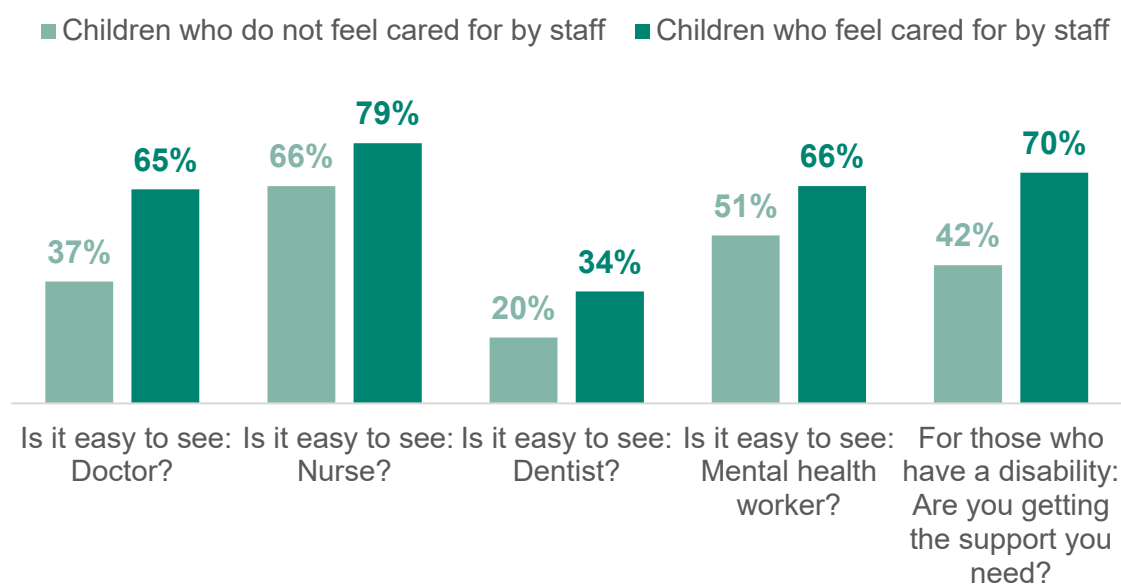


Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

2.6 Children who did not feel cared for found it harder to see a health care professional, and those who were disabled were less likely to report getting the support they need.

Figure 12: Children who did not feel cared for found it harder to see a health care professional. Those with a disability were less likely to be getting the support they needed than their counterparts.

STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

2.7 This group also had more negative experiences of many other aspects of day-to-day life, including being able to spend time outside on most days. Just 29% of them reported receiving more than two hours out of their cell at the weekend.

Link between care and behaviour management

2.8 Improving behaviour management has been a key problem in YOIs over the previous five years. High levels of violence and a reliance on keeping children apart to reduce conflict has prevented access to education, health care and offending behaviour interventions for many children.

2.9 Our 2018 thematic inspection on [incentivising and promoting good behaviour](#) reported the importance of relationships in effective behaviour management, an area which is currently a key challenge for all institutions holding children.

‘During interviews, many young people displayed a lack of trust in staff. It was apparent that inconsistency in the response of staff members to everyday requests – including access to showers, phone calls and prison kit – undermined young people’s confidence in the ability of staff to deal effectively with more significant issues, including bullying and violence.’

Incentivising and promoting good behaviour - a thematic review

2.10 It is not unusual to find that leaders in YOIs are unable to deliver effective incentives to children who behave well and, more

concerningly, in this context there appear to be no consequences for poor behaviour. Inspectors have found this is often the case even when the poor behaviour is serious in nature.

2.11 When we compare the perceptions of children who felt cared for with those who did not, the link to behaviour management is stark. Children who did not feel cared for by staff were less likely to report that incentives for good behaviour were fair or encouraged them to behave well. In addition, they were much less likely to report that staff let them know when their behaviour was good or explained what they had done wrong. They were also more likely to have experienced restraint and been separated from other children as a punishment.

Figure 13: Children who do not feel cared for were more likely to have been restrained by staff and prevented from mixing with other children as a result.
STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

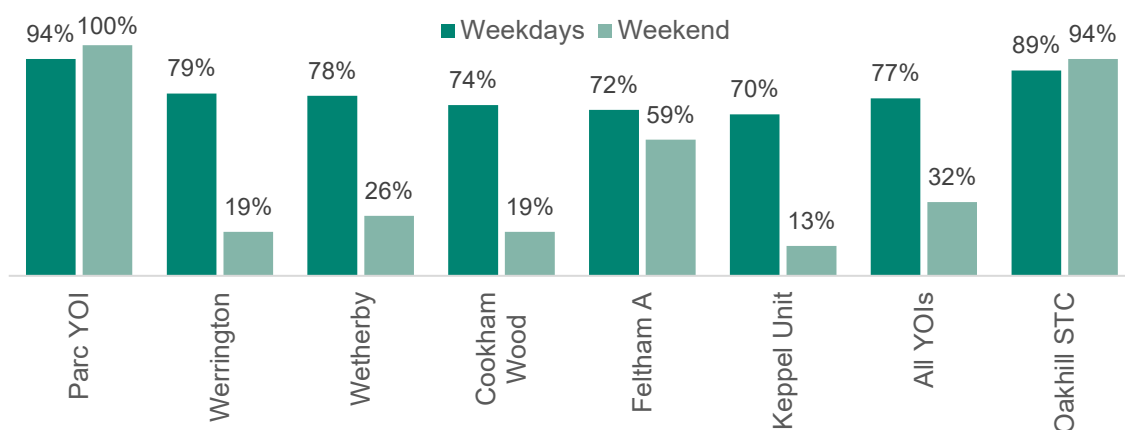
2.12 These very poor perceptions among more than half of the children in custody reflect a significant challenge for the Youth Custody Service. Without improvement in relationships and meaningful incentives, coupled with consistent consequences for poor behaviour, it is hard to see how leaders will improve behaviour management and make these establishments safe.

Section 3 Recovery from the pandemic

Very poor purposeful activity and the consequences for reoffending

- 3.1 The perceptions of children in our survey remained unchanged in many areas when compared with last year. Given that the restricted regimes put in place during the pandemic had officially ended, the continued contraction of education and other purposeful activity was very concerning.
- 3.2 We found progress had been made in improving the education provision itself, with Ofsted identifying that there had been reasonable or better progress in addressing nine out of our 13 concerns. However, this progress was undermined by the limited time out of cell and difficulties in making sure children were allocated to courses that met their needs.
- 3.3 While we expected children to be spending more time out of their cells in 2022–23, in reality we found progress had been slow. At two sites (Wetherby and Werrington YOIs) there had been no meaningful progress and there had been insufficient progress at Cookham Wood YOI. Only Feltham YOI had made reasonable progress in this area. Overall, 78% of children reported spending more than two hours out of their cell on weekdays and just 38% said this was the case at the weekend. However, there was substantial variation between the sites.

Figure 14: Children spent too long locked up. The percentage of children who spent more than two hours out of their cell varied across the establishments.
STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

- 3.4 While nearly all children at Parc YOI and Oakhill STC reported spending two hours or more out of their cell each day, the situation was much worse at other sites, particularly at the weekend, when the overwhelming majority of children spent more than 22 hours a day

locked in their cells. This was made worse by staffing shortfalls at some sites, including Cookham Wood YOI:

‘Staffing is all over the place when there is 2 officers on the landing and they can facilitate association they don’t. Educations bad [there is] not much to do and I’m in Year 10, 15 and their not prepping me for GCSEs and I’m too young for most courses even though it’s a 15-18 YOI.’ **Child at Cookham Wood YOI (survey comment)**

- 3.5 Our surveys of children at other sites also revealed that they wanted more time out of their cell.

‘[There needs to be] More regime, is mental torture, just seeing the light of day for 30 minutes a day thats 3-5 hours a week. Sort it out, do your job. There should be more activities.’ **Child at Wetherby YOI**

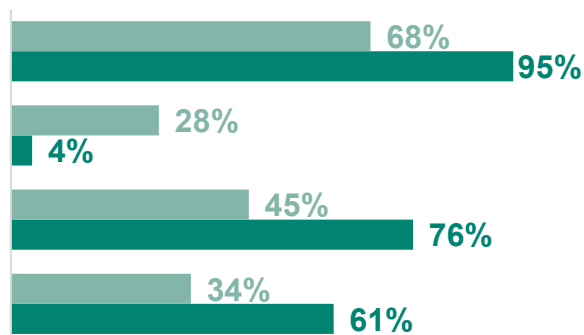
‘The regime is shocking.’ **Child at Werrington YOI**

‘They need more staff so we can get out of our cells more because the staff want to get us out but most of the time they’re understaffed.’ **Child at Feltham YOI**

- 3.6 Measures put in place to keep children apart due to conflict (known as keep aparts) delayed movement to activities in YOIs. In the worst instances, children spent more time moving to and from education than they did in the classrooms themselves.
- 3.7 A comparison between the responses of children who spent more than two hours out of their cell on weekdays and those who did not highlights the impact of being locked in cells for long periods. These children were less likely to be able to shower each day or have regular access to clean bedding. Just 57% of this group reported being able to spend time outside in the fresh air most days, and only a quarter were able to go to the gym or play sports once a week or more. Fewer of these children were attending education and 28% of them (compared with 4% of other children) were not doing anything purposeful while they were in custody. It was therefore unsurprising that just 34% of children who spent long periods of time locked up reported having learnt something that would help them when they were released.

Figure 15: Children who spent less than two hours out of their cell were less positive about many aspects of purposeful activity.

STCs and YOIs in England and Wales, 2022–23



Source: HMI Prisons' detainee surveys

3.8 Further responses highlighted how isolated this group was from staff, family and friends. Just 52% said there was a member of staff they could turn to for help and only 21% said that their emergency call bell was normally answered within five minutes. In addition, children who spent little time out of cell were less likely to be able to use the phone each day and only 53% said they got visits from family, compared with 76% of the children who spent more than two hours out of their cell on weekdays.

Improving family contact

3.9 The one clear area of improvement this year was the increase in the number of children saying that they had weekly visits from family or friends. This year 27% of children told us they had visits once a week or more, compared with 15% in the previous year. While this improvement is welcome it is still well below the 45% of children who reported having weekly visits in 2019–20. (Note: in 2019–20 there were three STCs – Medway, Oakhill and Rainsbrook. In 2021–22 there were two STCs – Rainsbrook and Oakhill. In 2022–23 only Oakhill STC was open.)

3.10 As there are only a small number of establishments holding children, they are often held a long way from home. This problem is particularly acute for girls, because there are fewer places in which they can be held. Only 33% of boys and 13% of girls reported it was easy for their family and friends to visit. Findings from our IRPs point to other barriers to family contact, including the underuse of attractive outdoor facilities at Cookham Wood and the impact that conflict between children had on the ability to deliver visits.

‘Children were not yet able to mix with their peers from other units during social visits. Instead, each unit was allocated specific visits sessions, which reduced the options available to families and others trying to make bookings.’ **Wetherby**

Appendix I Demographic and background characteristics

Demographic and other background characteristics of children who completed a questionnaire – overall, between types of, and within establishments – from self-reported data.

		YOIs						Total YOIs	STCs	Total STCs	Total all children
		Cookham Wood	Keppel Unit	Wetherby	Werrington	Feltham	Parc		Oakhill		
Gender	Male	100%	78%	99%	98%	100%	100%	98%	97%	97%	98%
	Female	0%	22%	1%	2%	0%	0%	2%	3%	3%	2%
Age	14 or under	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	12%	12%	1%
	15	7%	0%	5%	7%	4%	0%	5%	15%	15%	6%
	16	21%	21%	24%	32%	24%	6%	23%	38%	38%	25%
	17	46%	54%	53%	55%	63%	61%	54%	26%	26%	51%
	18 or over	25%	25%	17%	7%	8%	33%	18%	9%	9%	17%

Ethnicity	White	33%	76%	59%	51%	18%	44%	46%	33%	33%	45%
	Mixed	15%	8%	17%	28%	29%	17%	19%	31%	31%	20%
	Asian	3%	4%	5%	7%	2%	6%	4%	0%	0%	4%
	Black	44%	8%	17%	14%	49%	33%	28%	28%	28%	28%
	Arab	2%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	3%	1%
	Other	3%	4%	2%	0%	2%	0%	2%	6%	6%	2%
Traveller	Yes	8%	24%	6%	5%	4%	11%	8%	3%	3%	7%
	No	92%	76%	94%	95%	96%	89%	92%	97%	97%	93%
Religion	No religion	11%	43%	30%	20%	9%	41%	23%	25%	25%	23%
	Christian	64%	43%	50%	34%	59%	18%	50%	53%	53%	50%
	Buddhist	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Jewish	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	6%	1%
	Muslim	23%	9%	16%	41%	30%	24%	23%	14%	14%	22%
	Other	2%	0%	4%	5%	2%	12%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Health problems	Yes	50%	67%	42%	41%	44%	53%	46%	36%	36%	45%
	No	50%	33%	58%	59%	56%	47%	54%	64%	64%	55%

Disability	Yes	25%	38%	30%	32%	22%	35%	29%	40%	40%	30%
	No	75%	63%	70%	68%	78%	66%	71%	60%	60%	70%
Been cared for in local authority	Yes	77%	60%	65%	67%	57%	76%	67%	56%	56%	66%
	No	23%	40%	35%	33%	43%	24%	33%	44%	44%	34%
Have children	Yes	17%	12%	9%	12%	8%	22%	12%	9%	9%	12%
	No	83%	88%	91%	88%	92%	78%	88%	91%	91%	88%

Appendix II Methodology

Administering the survey

At the time of the survey, researchers from HMI Prisons attempted to invite all children in every secure training centre (STC) and young offender institution (YOI) to complete a questionnaire. In some instances, for example when a child was at court or an outside hospital, it was not possible to speak to all children. In total, 96% of children detained in YOIs and STCs at the time of our survey were offered the opportunity to complete a questionnaire. Every effort was made to speak to each child individually to explain the purpose and confidentiality of the survey, its voluntary nature and the independence of the inspection process. We also offered to administer the questionnaire via an interview for children who said they needed assistance.

We asked children to not put their name on their questionnaire, but to enable us to follow up any child protection and safeguarding issues each questionnaire was numbered so that any relevant comments could be traced back to the respondent. Children were made aware of this. Self-completed questionnaires were placed in sealed envelopes and collected by HMI Prisons researchers.

Response rate

In the 2022–23 reporting year, as shown in Table 1, questionnaires were completed (either through self-completion or via an interview) and returned by 83% of the children in the available sample (representing 79% of the children who were resident in the establishment at the time of the survey). The response rate ranged from 69% at Parc to 100% at Oakhill.

Table 1: Sample sizes and response rates across STCs and YOIs during 2022–23.

The response rate for YOIs and STCs has been calculated as a proportion of the total number of children who were offered a questionnaire.

YOIs	Date of Survey	Population on survey date	Number of questionnaires distributed	Number of returned questionnaires	Response rate
Cookham Wood	19 April 2022	86	82	67	82%
Wetherby	1 August 2022	137	129	104	81%
Keppel unit	1 August 2022	27	27	25	93%
Werrington	12 September 2022	55	53	44	83%
Feltham A	10 October 2022	62	62	49	79%

Parc	23 January 2023	27	26	18	69%
YOI total		394	379	307	81%
STCs	Date of Survey	Population on survey date	Number of questionnaires distributed	Number of returned questionnaires	Response rate
Oakhill	8 March 2022	38	36	36	100%
STC total		38	36	36	100%
YOI AND STC TOTAL		432	415	343	83%

Non-responses

Missing data, where respondents have not answered a question, have been excluded from the analysis. This means that the percentages calculated are from a total sum where there may have been different response rates to each question within the survey.

Figures quoted in this report have been rounded to the nearest whole number. In some cases, due to the way we round the data, a result of 0% can, in fact, have been reported and/or experienced by a very small number of children. For example, across the entire YOI sample of 307 individuals, the response of one child on a given issue would appear as 0% in our report.

Analyses conducted

In addition to presenting the aggregated survey responses for children in custody (across all STCs and YOIs), additional analyses are reported:

- a comparison between survey responses received from children in STCs and YOIs
- responses from children in each STC and YOI as well as the overall response from children in that type of custody setting
- statistical comparisons between different sub-groups within the 2021–22 responses, where numbers allowed. Highlighting is used in tables to show where there are statistically significant differences.

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