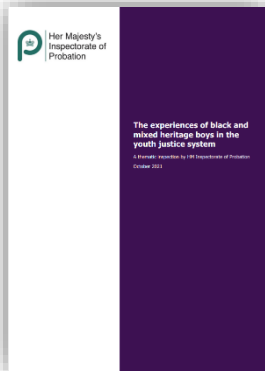


Black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system

The references below are all available at: www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprobation

HM Inspectorate of Probation would encourage you to explore the pages on the website however, for ease, we have provided hyperlinks to relevant information relating to the thematic inspection entitled 'The experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system.'

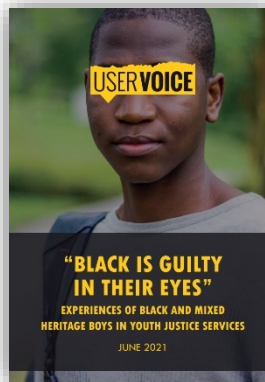


Main inspection report: [A thematic inspection of the experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system \(2021\)](#)

Presentation slides: [Experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system](#)

These slides, from our launch event, provide a summary of the report including:

the context, methodology, profile of the children, what the boys told us, findings in relation to governance and leadership, staffing, partnerships and services, assessment, planning and delivery, and a summary of User Voice's findings and HM Inspectorate of Probation's recommendations.



We commissioned the services of 'User Voice', a national charity, created and run by people who have been in prison and on probation, to interview black and mixed heritage boys, to gather their perspectives on the services that they had received from the youth offending service (YOS). User Voice prepared a report summarising their findings, methodology, direct quotes from the boys and their suggested solutions.

User Voice report: ["Black is guilty in their eyes;" Experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in youth justice services \(June 2021\)](#)

Poem used in the presentation: [BBC Poetry Season - Zephaniah and students perform The British - YouTube 1:55 mins](#)

Following on from the thematic inspection we published an effective practice guide; this focused on examples of effective practice (which we define as *where we see our standards delivered well, in practice*) we identified during the inspection.



Report: [Effective practice guide: Black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system \(December 2021\)](#)

Whilst we would encourage you to explore the multi-media document in full, to support your professional development in this area, below are a few of the additional links and tools for practitioners cited in the guide:

YouTube video: [Learning from stakeholders: User Voice](#)

In this 10:42min video Rennel Gayle from User Voice speaks about his experiences as a peer researcher for the inspection and shared salient points provided by the boys.

Poster: outlining the [pillars of relationships \(with practitioners\) identified by the boys](#)

Poster: [Six solutions for practitioners working with black and mixed heritage boys identified by User Voice](#)

Interview transcript: [Matthew Knight interview](#)

At the time of the thematic inspection, Matthew was Head of Haringey Youth Offending Service; he is now London Accommodation Pathfinder Strategic Development Manager. We discussed Haringey's involvement with the disproportionality project, a multi-agency approach to addressing disproportionality.

Podcast episode: [Youth Justice | The Black Experience by Bird Podcast | Stories from prison \(anchor.fm\)](#)**YouTube video:** [Learning from stakeholders: Stop and search](#)

In this 6:32min video Brendan Finegan, Hackney Service Manager, explains the approach that the Safer Young Hackney Board (YOS management board) took when Hackney Young Futures Commission advised that children were concerned about the approach taken in stop and searches.

YouTube video: [Learning from stakeholders: Out-of-court disposals](#)

In this 9:56min video Brendan Finegan, Hackney Service Manager, shares Hackney's approach to out-of-court disposals.

Assessment template: [Hackney YJS Prevention & Diversion Assessment \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](#)**YouTube video:** [Learning from stakeholders: Anti-racist strategy](#)

In this 6:32 video Keith Cohen, Head of Youth Offending Service in Lewisham discusses their approach as an anti-racist service.

YouTube video: [Learning from stakeholders: Engagement with black and mixed heritage boys and caregivers](#)

In this 10:29min video Lewisham YOS family therapy team talks about how they are intentional in all they do with the families they work with; they spend time planning and preparing as part of the model. This includes considering barriers, previous relationships, how they have seen help or support, and their experiences of racism and oppression.

YouTube video: [Learning from stakeholders: Working with the parents/caregivers of black and mixed heritage boys](#)

In this 15:35min Lewisham YOS family therapy team discuss the importance of working with parents/caregivers.

Newsletter example: [Lewisham YOS Newsletter August 2020 Issue 002](#)**YouTube video:** [Learning from stakeholders: Systemic engagement with black and mixed heritage boys](#)

In this 9:34min video Lewisham YOS family therapy team members share how they advocate actively for families and influence other systems positively. For example, they speak about eloquent challenges to other systems "correcting language, gently, and offering alternatives."

Information sheet: [Black and mixed heritage boys themes](#)

This information sheets highlights a number of themes which impact on the boys, provides suggestions of what practitioners can do to address it and provides quotes from the boys about the impact of addressing these themes.

Interview transcript: [Case management transcript](#)

We speak with Angelique Flemming from Targeted Services for Young People, Liverpool regarding her culturally competent practice to share tips.

There is a wealth of information in the guide and additional tools and links to those highlighted above; plus at the end of the guide we have included a further reading and resources section which includes additional links to the Youth Justice Resource hub, websites and reports. So please do go and explore.

We would welcome feedback on this guide, including its impact and any suggested improvements. Please send your comments and ideas to Tammie.Burroughs@hmiprobation.gov.uk.