

HMP Northallerton

Summary report for the provision of learning and skills

Unique reference number: 52354

Inspection type: Full announced

Last day of inspection: 21 January 2011

Type of establishment: Male young offenders and adult category C/D
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Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted)

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Inspectors judge the quality of the provision against the *Common Inspection Framework 2009* and contribute to the inspection frameworks of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons.

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Information about the prison

Northallerton is a recently re-rolled prison holding adults as well as young adult prisoners. It is a small prison, with only 170 prisoners at the time of the inspection of whom 14% were black and minority ethnic prisoners; 8% being adults and 16% young adults. The prison is a local prison for North Yorkshire with a population drawn mostly from the local area. Learning and skills provision was contracted to The Manchester College (TMC). The range of provision included literacy and numeracy from foundation to level 2, ICT level 1 and 2 as well as programmes in creative techniques at level 1 and 2 and citizenship and healthy living at level 1. Progression to level 3 was also available for a minority of programmes and vocational training opportunities at levels 1 and 2. Approximately 76 full-time equivalent education places were available with 69% of prisoners accessing a learning programme. Prisoners had access to 95 full-time equivalent work and vocational training places and 10 gym full-time equivalent places. Working Links provided the careers information advice service (CIAS). The Shannon Trust delivered the Toe-by-Toe adult literacy programme.

Summary report of the inspection findings of the learning and skills provision at HMP Northallerton

Grades: 1 is outstanding; 2 is good; 3 is satisfactory; 4 is inadequate

<i>Common Inspection Framework (CIF)</i> aspects	Grade
Overall effectiveness	2
Capacity to improve	2

Outcomes for learners	2
Quality of provision	2
Leadership and management	2

Overall effectiveness

Grade 2

The overall effectiveness of HMP Northallerton's learning and skills provision is good. Learners' outcomes and the quality of provision across all contractors are good. Learners enjoy their learning, achieve well and most make good progress. They report feeling safe when participating in prison learning activities. Learners attend work, education and workshops punctually. They receive good information, advice and guidance. Partnership working with subcontractors and employers is effective. Use of shared best practice effectively supports improvements. The provision appropriately meets the needs and interests of its users. Leadership and management of the provision are good as is the operational management of education and activities. The prison learning and skills satisfactorily promotes equality and diversity. Safeguarding of learners is good. The prison has satisfactory arrangements to engage with users to support and promote improvement. Self-assessment is satisfactory. However, quality assurance has yet to impact fully on non-OLASS provision and consistently drive consistency and improvement across all learning and skills provision.

Capacity to improve

Grade 2

The prison's overall capacity to improve learning and skills is good. The prison has a clear strategy for the development of learning and skills and has further improved its focus on resettlement and addressing offender behaviour. Since the previous inspection, the prison has effectively altered the provision to reflect the changing prison population. HMP Northallerton has ensured this process is well informed by employment data from prisoners' resettlement areas. The prison has appropriately set and used strategic targets to facilitate the achievement of learning and skills' priorities. Quality assurance and self-assessment arrangements are satisfactory and have contributed to the good management of improvements. However, quality assurance is not fully embedded across all the provision. The quality improvement group has yet to adopt a fully evaluative role in assessing the effectiveness of all the provision. Management structures and staffing levels appropriately underpin future development plans. Internal communication is good. Achievement and retention rates are generally high or very high. Approximately 69% of the prison population access a learning programme. Learners experience good support, teaching, and learning. HMP Northallerton suitably supports new learning and skills staff and ensures they receive relevant professional development. Tutors are well qualified for their role or are working towards an appropriate qualification. The prison effectively

uses its resources to support learning and the development of appropriate work skills. The number of activity places ensures that all prisoners have access to purposeful activity.

Outcomes for learners

Grade 2

Strengths

- high or very high achievement and retention in many areas
- good development of vocational skills to commercial standards
- good development of practical skills in vocational training to support resettlement.

Areas for improvement

- very poor achievement rates on financial capability programmes to support independent living.

The quality of provision

Grade 2

Strengths

- good teaching and learning in education
- good use of tutors skills across all learning and skills to engage and promote learning
- good learning support in education and training sessions
- good progress for most learners within or to a higher level programme
- good progression opportunities in hospitality to gain industry relevant qualifications that support resettlement
- good use of peer support in cleaning and support service programmes.

Areas for improvement

- some over reliance on worksheets and insufficient use of exercises to challenge more able learners
- insufficient access to information and learning technology to support learning in literacy and numeracy
- insufficient cover for staff absences in vocational training
- inconsistently effective individual learning plans to aid monitoring.

Strengths

- good operational management of the education and training provision
- good management of curriculum changes to meet the needs of the changing prison population
- good partnership working with subcontractors and employers to support resettlement
- thorough and responsive arrangements to ensure that allocation of prisoners to activities is both fair and equitable
- good safeguarding arrangements

Areas for improvement

- incomplete implementation of quality assurance arrangements to include non OLASS provision
- insufficient use of equality of opportunity data to monitor and compare the experience of different groups and support decision making.

What does HMP Northallerton need to do to improve further?

- Increase the use of information and learning technology and improve the quality of paper based exercises to better support learning in literacy and numeracy.
- Improve achievement on money management programmes.
- Ensure effective arrangements are in place to cover for staff absences in vocational training.
- Improve the effectiveness of target-setting in individual learning plans to help learners understand what they can do to improve their work and make better progress.
- Implement quality assurance arrangements that effectively drive improvement across all learning and skills provision.
- Make further use of equality of opportunity data to monitor and compare the experience of different groups which informs an action planning process for improvement.

Record of Main Findings (RMF) – Young adult and adult prisons			
Prison Name:	HMP Northallerton	Inspection No	365550

Grades using the 4 point scale 1: Outstanding; 2: Good; 3: Satisfactory; 4: Inadequate	Overall
Approximate number of learners in training and work and education with or without qualification outcomes at the time of inspection	252
Overall effectiveness	2
Capacity to improve	2
A. Outcomes for learners	2
A1. How well do learners achieve and enjoy their learning?	2
A1.a) How well do learners attain their learning goals?	2
A1.b) How well do learners progress?	3
A2. How well do learners improve their economic and social well-being through learning and development?	2
A3. How safe do learners feel?	2
A4. <i>Are learners able to make informed choices about their own health and well being?*</i>	Yes
A5. <i>How well do learners make a positive contribution to the community?*</i>	n/a
B. Quality of provision	2
B1. How effectively do teaching, training and assessment support learning and development?	2
B2. How effectively does the provision meet the needs and interests of users?	2
B3. How well do partnerships with employers, community groups and others lead to benefits for learners?	3
B4. How effective are the care, guidance and support learners receive in helping them to achieve?	2
C. Leadership and management	2
C1. How effectively do leaders and managers raise expectations and promote ambition throughout the organisation?	2
C2. <i>How effectively do governors and supervisory bodies provide leadership, direction and challenge?*</i>	n/a
C3. How effectively does the prison promote the safeguarding of learners?	2
C4. How effectively does the prison actively promote equality and diversity, tackle discrimination and narrow the achievement gap?	3
C5. How effectively does the prison engage with users to support and promote improvement?	3
C6. How effectively does self-assessment improve the quality of the provision and outcomes for learners?	3
C7. How efficiently and effectively does the prison use its available resources to secure value for money?	2

*if applicable to the type of prison

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