

Establishment	Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) Nottingham
Type of establishment	Male adult Category B
Inspection type	Full announced
Dates of inspection	14- 18 February 2010
Establishment contact	Head of Learning and Skills Perry Road Sherwood Nottingham NG5 3AG Tel: 0115 872 4000

This is a summary report of the inspection findings of the learning and skills provision at HMP Nottingham

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

<i>Common Inspection Framework (CIF)</i> aspects	Grade
Overall effectiveness	3
Capacity to improve	3
Outcomes for learners	4
Quality of provision	3
Leadership and management	3

Overall effectiveness

Grade: 3

The overall effectiveness of the prison's learning and skills provision is satisfactory. The management of learning and skills satisfactorily meets learners' needs. However, the prison has too few links with employers to assist learners' development of employability skills and does not fully share the existing best practice. Learners' standard of work is generally satisfactory. They achieve very well on short employment-related programmes. Achievements on industrial cleaning programmes are good. In the gym, a good range of short programmes is offered, and prisoners' achievements are high. However, their achievements in Skills for Life and employability programmes are unsatisfactory. Class attendance and punctuality in the education department are erratic.

Most prisoners receive a good induction to their programme. The information, advice and guidance service, provided by Lincoln College, is good for education learners and satisfactory for other learners. The prison makes few meaningful links between sentence plans and learners' individual learning plans. Safeguarding arrangements are satisfactory. The prison provides a good safe training and learning environment and satisfactorily promotes equality and diversity. Learning take place in a positive environment that

values mutual respect between learners and teaching staff. However, inequitable access to the provision disadvantages vulnerable prisoners.

Capacity to Improve

Grade: 3

The overall capacity to improve is satisfactory. HMP Nottingham has a clear vision and well-developed strategy for learning and skills. This includes appropriate plans to tackle the challenge posed by the imminent doubling of the prison's population. The opportunities for prisoners to be engaged in purposeful prison work have improved. The prison's development of education and training provision is in response to an analysis of skills needs in prisoners' release locations. However, at the time of the inspection, the amount of purposeful work available was insufficient to meet the needs of the prison population. Significant shortfalls in the range of training and education opportunities exist. New courses and vocational workshops are planned to remedy the shortfall. HMP Nottingham makes good use of quality assurance arrangements to assess and improve the effectiveness of teaching and training. The self-assessment process is inclusive and effectively drives improvement. The prison recognises the need to improve all achievement rates. Relevant strategies have been introduced, but it is too early to assess their effectiveness.

Outcomes for learners

Grade: 4

Strengths

- very high achievements on short employment-related programmes
- good achievements on industrial cleaning programmes

Areas for development

- low achievement of qualifications across the Skills for Life programmes, particularly in the English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) courses
- low achievements on employability programmes
- poor class attendance and punctuality at learning sessions

Quality of provision

Grade: 3

Strengths

- good and comprehensive induction into the learning and skills programmes
- particularly effective delivery of careers' information, advice and guidance for education learners
- well organised and managed industrial cleaning and catering programmes
- good use of individual learning plans and reviews to support learning

Areas for development

- insufficient induction, screening and initial assessment of those prisoners who speak English as a second language
- insufficient learning support to meet learners individual needs particularly for specialist dyslexic support
- lack of vocational qualifications to the needs of learners and employers

Leadership of management

Grade: 3

Key Strengths

- clear vision and well developed strategy for the development of the provision
- good use of quality assurance arrangements to assess and improve the effectiveness of teaching

Key Areas for Improvement

- inadequate links with employers to assist learners' development of employability skills
- insufficient sharing of existing good practice to benefit all learners
- ineffective use of data to monitor the success of different groups
- inadequate access to learning and skills for some prisoners

What HMP Nottingham needs to do to improve further?

- Significantly improve the achievement rates for Skills for Life programmes, particularly in the ESOL courses and employability programmes.
- Introduce more vocational qualifications that are relevant to the needs of learners and employers.
- Ensure links with employers are improved to assist learners' development of employability skills.
- Use data more effectively to monitor the success of different groups.
- Implement arrangements to share the good practice that currently exists in the prison.