

Establishment	Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) Liverpool
Type of establishment	Male adult Category B
Inspection type	Full announced
Dates of inspection	3-4 Sept and 9-10 Sept 2009
Establishment contact	Head of Learning and Skills 68 Hornby Road, Liverpool L9 3DF Tel: 0151 530 4000

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

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

<i>Common Inspection Framework (CIF) aspects</i>	Grade
Overall effectiveness	3
Capacity to improve	3
Outcomes for learners	3
Quality of provision	2
Leadership and management	3

Overall effectiveness

Grade: 3

The overall effectiveness of the prison's learning and skills provision is satisfactory. Learners' achievement of qualifications is satisfactory. Learners develop good employability and personal skills. Arrangements to safeguard learners are satisfactory and learners say they feel safe. Attendance and punctuality is poor at learning and skills activities. The quality of teaching and learning is generally good, making effective use of mentors. The range of activities is good and has been improved since the previous inspection; however, too few places are available to ensure all offenders have equal access to learning and skills activities. Offenders' access to induction and information about education and training is not early enough in their sentence. The overall leadership and management of learning and skills are satisfactory. Senior managers provide good leadership in promoting the development and use of employers to help provide programmes that focus on improving employment opportunities for offenders. The day-to-day management of education and training is good and the education programme meets the majority of learners' needs. Learning and skills has made good and effective internal links with other departments within the prison. HMP Liverpool's promotion of equality and diversity is satisfactory.

Capacity to Improve

Grade: 3

The overall capacity to improve learning and skills is satisfactory. Learners' achievements are satisfactory and they develop good employability and personal skills in a good range of activities. The self-assessment process is generally inclusive of staff and stakeholders and well informed by evidence. The self-assessment report is broadly accurate, sufficiently evaluative and identifies many of the areas for improvement found at inspection. Arrangements for the quality assurance of training are satisfactory; however, the analysis of data is insufficient to inform the planning of provision. Since the previous inspection, the prison has significantly improved employer links. These have been effectively used in developing employer-focused courses. Attendance in education and vocational training is poor. The use of individual learning plans insufficiently focuses on target setting and pays no attention to the recognition and recording of personal skills developed by learners. Progress since the previous inspection has been satisfactory; however, some areas for improvement from that inspection have not been successfully remedied.

Outcomes for learners

Grade: 3

Strengths

- good development of employability and personal development and social integration skills

Areas for improvement

- poor punctuality and attendance in education, training and work areas

Quality of provision

Grade: 2

Strengths

- good teaching, training and coaching
- very effective use of mentors to benefit learners
- good range of work activities with a strong focus on improving employability skills of offenders

Areas for improvement

- insufficient use of individual learning plans for target setting and recording of offenders personal development
- insufficiently early access to induction into education

Key Strengths

- good employer engagement to benefit offenders
- very effective operational management of education with well developed internal links
- good actions to develop the skills of prison instructors with a strong focus on improving teaching

Key Areas for improvement

- insufficient places to ensure that offenders have good access to education and vocational training
- insufficient range of activities in education and vocational training for vulnerable offenders
- insufficient analysis of data to inform programme planning

What HMP Liverpool needs to do to improve further?

- Develop and implement an induction process that ensures that prisoners receive initial assessment of their skills, and information about education and training, at an early stage of their sentence.
- Develop and improve the use of individual learning plans to include better target setting and to recognise and record learners' non-accredited achievements.
- Provide sufficient work, education and training to allow more offenders to take part in activities that help provide them with suitable skills to prepare for release.
- Further develop the analysis and use of data to provide accurate management information to support development planning for learning and skills provision.
- Manage the movement of offenders to and from the education, training and work areas to ensure that they arrive on time and make full use of resources.