

Establishment	Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) Guys Marsh
Type of establishment	Male adult Category C
Inspection type	Full announced
Dates of inspection	4-8 January 2010
Establishment contact	Head of Learning and Skills HMP Guys Marsh Shaftesbury Dorset SP7 0AH Tel: 01747 856405

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

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	2
Quality of provision	3
Leadership and management	3

Overall effectiveness

Grade: 3

The overall effectiveness of the learning and skills provision is satisfactory. Day-to-day operational management of education and vocational training is good although staff do not share good practice sufficiently across the provision. The quality of teaching and learning is mostly good and the achievement of qualifications is high on the majority of programmes. Lessons are purposeful and engaging, and learners make a good contribution. Assessment and verification practices are satisfactory. Records on individual learning plans are adequately maintained and appropriate targets are set. The quality of learners' work is variable, although it is good on many courses. Safeguarding arrangements for learners are satisfactory. The promotion of equality and diversity is good and interactions between teaching staff and learners are respectful. Equality training for staff and learners is thorough and learners have a clear understanding of their rights and responsibilities.

Capacity to Improve

Grade: 3

The capacity to improve learning and skills is satisfactory. Achievement of qualifications for learners in vocational training are satisfactory, and in some cases good, particularly on the horticulture and industrial cleaning programmes. Punctuality is satisfactory although attendance at some sessions is low and waiting lists for many programmes are long and poorly managed.

Self-assessment is well established and the development plan has clear targets. The report is mainly thorough and evaluative although some areas are overly descriptive. Quality assurance arrangements are satisfactory and arrangements for observing teaching and learning are appropriate. However, data are insufficiently used to inform improvements fully. The range of education and vocational programmes has improved, since the previous inspection, and is satisfactory. However, not enough spaces are available to ensure that all prisoners have good access to training and the scope for progression is limited, particularly above intermediate level. Employer engagement is satisfactory.

Outcomes for learners

Grade: 2

Strengths

- high achievement rates on education, horticulture and industrial cleaning programmes
- good progress made by learners on most programmes
- good standards of work on many programmes

Areas for improvement

- poor attendance in some sessions

Quality of provision

Grade: 3

Strengths

- good teaching and learning
- good learning support on most programmes

Areas for improvement

- insufficient education and training programmes available to meet the needs of all prisoners

Leadership and management

Grade: 3

Key Strengths

- good day-to-day management of education and learning and skills
- good promotion of equality and diversity

Key Areas for Improvement

- insufficient use of data to inform management decision making and planning for improvement
- poor management of waiting lists

- insufficient sharing of good practices across the provision

What HMP Guys Marsh needs to do to improve further?

- Introduce more accredited education and vocational training to meet prisoners' needs, particularly for progression above intermediate level.
- Use data effectively to inform management decision making and planning for improvement.
- Improve arrangements for sharing good practice between prison staff, education and training providers.
- Prioritise attendance and manage waiting lists for programmes effectively to maximise use of resources.