



**HMP Birmingham**

**Winson Green Rd**

**Birmingham**

**B18 4AS**



## Visitors Information & Guidance

We are pleased to announce domestic visits will be starting again shortly on 27th July 2020 at HMP Birmingham.

There will be new measures put in place to facilitate visits which will be paramount in protecting the residents, staff and visitors from COVID- 19. We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding during these difficult times

Residents can apply for a visit by submitting an application, the visits team will then contact you to arrange a visit.

The following procedures will be in place, and **MUST** be followed at all times

- Anyone who (or has someone in their household) is unwell or showing symptoms of COVID-19 should not visit, even if symptoms are mild or intermittent, due to the risk you could pose to others, this is important for infection prevention and control.
- 1 adult visitor can attend a visit and must bring photographic identification ie: passport /driving license AND proof of name and address identification ie; utility bill dated in the last 6 months on EVERY visit .
- If you cannot prove identification you will be refused entry.
- Visitors must be a family member/ significant other.
- Please respect social distancing while entering and leaving the visitors' centre, visits hall, moving through the establishment and leaving the prison, also while returning to the visit centre and when returning home.

- Please arrive promptly for your visit, there will be restrictions in place regarding the amount of visitors in the building at any 1 time and you may have to wait outside in order for us to control the flow of visitors in and out.
- The visit centre will be cleaned before and after each visit session.
- There will be a procedure for checking temperature/symptoms on arrival at the visit centre ( non-contact temperature device)
- Please wash your hands for at least 20 seconds after entering the building.
- A face mask must be worn at all times entering and exiting the visit centre and the prison, and for the whole duration of the visit, the mask will be supplied by the establishment and must be returned after the visit .PLEASE NOTE LOCKERS ARE **NOT** AVAILABLE TO USE AT THE VISIT CENTRE ( please bring as little with you as possible i.e.; identification and car keys as there will be limited small lockers available to use in the prison)
- Please stay at least 2m away from other visitors, social distancing **MUST** be observed at all times (Unless in the future family bubbles are permitted). This includes on the way to the prison, through the search and up to the visits hall, pausing at the gates or while in the waiting areas.
- Please follow the floor marking directions for entering and exiting the buildings.
- All visitors who do not follow social distancing instructions may be asked to leave.
- Please follow staff instructions when booking in and registering your finger prints.
- Please use the toilet in the visit centre before leaving to attend your visit
- The visit centre will be closed in-between booking in and returning times, you cannot stay in the centre if you have been refused entry, or to wait for a visitor.
- The dress code must be strictly adhered to.
- No money or property is allowed into the prison.
- The entry and exit to the prison may take longer than normal, due to social distancing measures.
- Staff will be wearing PPE whilst patrolling the visits room.
- There will be a different type of search by staff before entering the prison and the visits hall, this may include a different type of search by the dog team as well.
- The visit room has a new layout to how you may remember it, there are fewer seats and you must follow direction from visits staff to your allocated seat.
- Once directed to your seat, you must stay there until asked to leave.
- You must remain seated after the visit ends and listen to and follow instructions from visits staff.
- You **MUST** wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before the visit, if you refuse your visit will not take place.
- The canteen in the visit centre and visits hall will not be open, water will be available.

- A visit session will be 45 minutes in duration ( to maximise all residents chance of a visit and carry out enhanced cleaning), only 1 visit per month is allowed ( the visits length and number of visits will be reviewed in the future)
- The visits hall will be cleaned before and after each visit session, to maintain the highest degree of cleanliness possible.
- **All visits will be contact free, no touching, hugging, kissing, absolutely no contact, anyone caught breaching this rule will have their visit terminated and be subject to sanctions which may include no future visits.**

All procedures will be reviewed on a regular basis.

We are hoping to start purple visits (video visits) soon, please ask for more information at the visit centre.

We understand this has been a very difficult time for you, and working together we can move forward to resume visits in a way to keep us all safe.

### **Thank you for your cooperation**

If you have any queries please phone the visit centre on 0121 598 8050/8178 Mondays to Sundays from 8.00am until 4.00pm

We look forward to seeing you again and welcoming new visitors, stay safe

HMP Birmingham & The visit centre team