



# The Youth Justice SEND Bubble

## Resources and hyperlinks

Achievement for All has developed a professional development and training platform called The Bubble. It is designed to support practitioners develop an awareness of key issues that impact on the progress of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged young people in society, and help them find, select and apply interventions that will secure better outcomes, leading to enhanced life chances.

We do not aim to supply *every* resource and training opportunity ourselves. What we do is to connect you with resources and approaches that already exist, supplied by organisations and third sector charities with a track record of effective practice. We hope this approach will help everyone to find and use what is already there, and then to share and celebrate success, through case studies and learning journeys.

Here are some of The Bubble's resource links.

If you want to learn more about The Bubble, [come to our regional workshops](#)

Recent trends have shown a year-on-year decrease in the number of young people in youth custody.

Although the overall numbers are continuing to decrease, young people who enter the youth justice system are some of the most disadvantaged in society: the impact of poverty and deprivation, of substance abuse, mental health issues, and disruptive family backgrounds (including those "in care" or "looked after").

The prevalence of special education needs adds to the litany of disruptive factors.



of imprisoned young offenders<sup>\*1</sup>  
have a mental health disorder

18%

of sentenced young  
people in custody had  
a **Statement of Special  
Educational Needs**  
compared to **3%** in the  
**general population.**

<sup>\*2</sup>  
- Ministry of Justice: Transforming  
Youth Custody Consultation, 2013

5%

of young people we spoke to did  
not understand why they were in  
a Young Offender Institution <sup>\*2</sup>

“..Additional research ... has shown  
that **66-90%** (of young offenders)  
had below average speech, language  
and communication skills on  
standardised tests, with  
**46-67%** having language skills which  
were ‘poor or very poor’...” <sup>\*3</sup>

<sup>\*1</sup> Campbell and Abbott (2013) Same Old...the experiences of young offenders with mental health needs. Young Minds **Barrow Cadbury Report**

<sup>\*2</sup> From **Sheffield Futures SEND Custody Project** (2016) A guide to supporting young people with Special Educational Needs and / or Disabilities (SEND) in custody

<sup>\*3</sup> From **Doing justice to speech language and communication needs** (2015) Proceedings of a Round Table on Speech Language and Communication Needs in the Youth Justice Sector. Communication Trust



## Nobody made the connection: The prevalence of neurodisability in young people who offend

The screenshot shows the Children's Commissioner website. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Publications', 'About Us', and 'News'. Below this is a header with three main sections: 'Get Advice' (Advice, assistance and information), 'Learn More' (Our work, news and publications), and 'Get Involved' (Discussions, surveys and calls for evidence). A search bar with the text 'What are you looking for?' and a magnifying glass icon is present. Below the search bar, there is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Publications > Nobody made the connection: The prevalence of neurodisability in young people who offend'. The main heading of the report is 'Nobody made the connection: The prevalence of neurodisability in young people who offend'. Below the heading are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube, followed by the date '10 October 2012'. A short summary of the report is provided: 'This report shows, through analysis of the results of that literature search, that there are indeed likely to be large numbers of young people currently in secure settings in England who have undiagnosed neurodevelopment conditions which have directly contributed to their offending behaviour.' At the bottom, there is a blue button with a document icon and the text 'Nobody made the connection.pdf'.

This report was released in 2012 by the Children's Commissioner.

It makes a compelling case for all professionals working in the youth justice system to take into account the prevalence of neurodevelopmental disorders in young people in custody.

It shows that young people in children's prisons tend to have a significant degree of neurodevelopmental disorders, and problems related to such issues, as compared to the general population.

**CLICK ON IMAGE TO LINK TO WEBSITE**



## CDC Resources

Council for Disabled Children have produced a range of excellent material to help improve outcomes for young offenders in youth custody.

CLICK ON IMAGES TO DOWNLOAD DIRECT FROM CDC WEBSITE



Home - Resources

## Young people in Youth Custody: A practice guide

Written by Council for Disabled Children

Date 30 Jun 2010

This practice guide is aimed at those working to improve outcomes for young offenders who have or may have special educational needs.

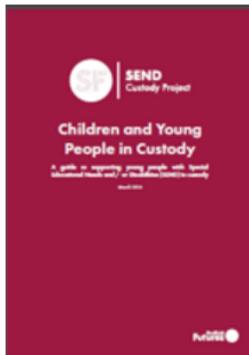
### Help & Resources

- [Resources](#) →
- [I work for a Local Authority](#) →
- [I'm a Parent](#) →
- [I'm a Young person](#) →
- [I'm a Social Worker](#) →
- [I work in Education](#) →
- [I'm a Healthcare Professional](#) →

The following documents can be downloaded directly from the CDC website. They are also archived in the "Knowledge Bank" for this Module.



### Sheffield Futures: Children and Young People in Custody- A guide to supporting young people with Special Educational Needs and / or Disabilities (SEND) in custody (March 2016)



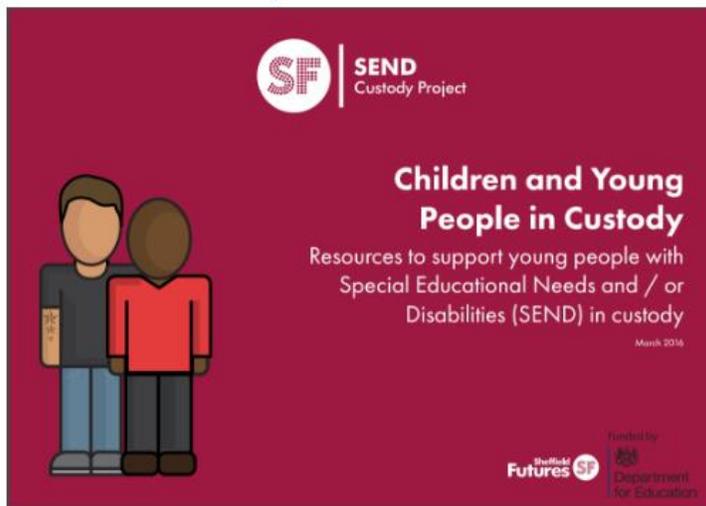
Sheffield Futures was commissioned by the DfE in April 2015 to design and deliver training covering the SEND Code of Practice across the secure estate within South and West Yorkshire. **This project guide shares the learning and offers further recommendations for the development of system-wide good practice.**

The training was offered to the 9 Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and 3 custodial institutions in the South and West Yorkshire Resettlement Consortium region.

This report summarises the findings from the programme, including the voice of young people in custody, feedback from delegates who attended the professional development workshops, and recommendations to support system change.



### Sheffield Futures Prompt Pack



CLICK on the image to download resource pack.

This is a fabulous resource from Sheffield Futures, giving you tools and approaches that can be used to positively engage with young people, especially when Speech Language and Communication Needs are a barrier.

It was compiled with advice and input from young people in custody, and covers areas such as "What happens next?" (images and easy-to-read script about what could happen after arrest and charging), "Going into Custody", "Looking to the Future" and "Resettlement".