

HM Prison Bristol

19 Cambridge Road, Bristol, BS7 8PS

HMP Bristol accommodates adult male prisoners and a limited number of young offenders, both convicted and remand, from all local Courts. HMP Bristol is a local category B prison with the majority of prisoners staying for less than 12 months. HMP Bristol places emphasis on supporting the needs of prisoners as they come into prison and in their preparation for release.

The healthcare service at HMP Bristol is delivered by the InspireBetterHealth group, comprising of Bristol Community Health, Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust and Hanham Health.

There is 24/7 nursing provision.

GP sessions are delivered Monday to Friday, 08:30 to 20:00 (broken down into 3 sessions per day; morning, afternoon and evening). Additionally, there is a Saturday afternoon GP session which is managed as part of a wider out-of-hours rota.

Evening and Saturday GP sessions are specifically delivered to support the healthcare team in seeing, assessing and treating new patients arriving into the prison that day. The majority of patients arrive into the prison straight from court and often come with a range of complex medical needs requiring immediate attention and same day prescribing.

The morning and afternoon weekday sessions include a mixture of general practice work (e.g. seeing patients for routine reviews or new health complaints), visiting patients with access restrictions on the wings, completing health checks of patients within the segregation unit and seeing / attending to patients with acute or emergency health needs.

This work is supported by the planned care and urgent care nursing teams, mental health team and substance misuse team; all of whom work together to provide a comprehensive healthcare service to this population.

There is a team of GPs working at HMP Bristol which offers continuity, consistency and a strong support network. The team meet as part of a wider Custodial Doctors' meeting on a bimonthly basis, which sees all of our prison GPs working across our five prisons come together to share clinical cases and learning, discuss operational changes and invite speakers and visitors from other services as part of on-going teaching.

Many of our prison GPs, including those working at HMP Bristol, have worked and progressed their careers with Hanham Health for a number of years. We are able to offer RCGP Drug Misuse Part 1 training and have access to a range of mental health and substance misuse training courses specific to healthcare within prisons.