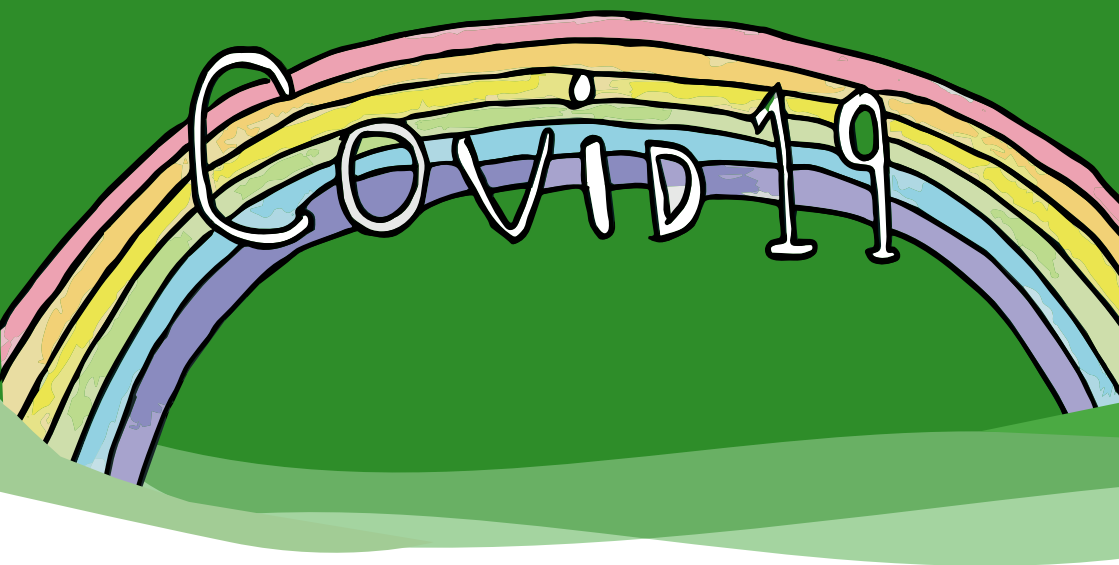


YOUR RIGHTS DURING



Howard League
for **Penal Reform**

Your rights during covid-19

“It’s stressful. I’m behind my door all day. It’s getting to my head.”

Lots of young people have called the Howard League legal advice line since the start of the Covid-19 lockdown. Many young people feel stressed and worried about their health and their families. Most young people in custody have said they feel bored and fed up. This is all completely understandable. It’s normal to feel these things. It has been a really difficult time for young people in custody and there has been a lot to deal with.

You still have rights during Covid-19

It is really important to know that as a young person in prison you still have rights during Covid-19, so far as they can be safely delivered. These rights include:

➤ The right to education (if you are under 18)

➤ The right to physical and mental healthcare

➤ The right to exercise and fresh air

➤ The right to contact with your family, friends and legal advisors

➤ The right to legal advice before adjudications



If you feel..

your rights are being ignored or you feel that you are being treated differently compared to others, you can get legal support.

Remember also that you can still make complaints to the prison, and you can still take your complaint to the Prison Ombudsman (PPO) if you think the prison's response is not good enough. Your prison may also have a Barnardo's worker who you can ask for help.



Don't be afraid to ask for the things you have a right to or need help with.

Release from custody

If you are able to apply for early release, bail or parole, Covid-19 should not stop this from happening. The legal rights owed to you continue and Covid-19 may be a reason why you should be released even earlier. The courts have recognised that extra effort should be made to keep people out of prison at this time.

If you have a hearing coming up this should still happen despite Covid-19. Hearings are taking place in different ways, including by telephone and video link. You still have a right to have your hearing and to have help to get the best outcome for you.

Your legal rights to support and accommodation on release are unchanged by the virus.

Howard League advice line

You can call the Howard League advice line for support and legal advice.

0808 801 0308

It is free to call and automatically on your pin. Sometimes it is very busy so keep trying if you don't get through the first time.

Howard League lawyers can advise you on your rights and help you get what you are legally entitled to. We can help you make applications for release from custody, and help to find accommodation and support for release. You can call us Monday to Friday, from 9:30am to 10:30am and from 11am to 12 midday.



Artwork by Keiron, aged 16



The Howard League
1 Ardleigh Road
London
N1 4HS

t 020 7249 7373
e info@howardleague.org
w www.howardleague.org
@TheHowardLeague

Company limited by guarantee
No. 898514
Registered charity
No. 251926

ISBN 978-1-911114-48-2



9 781911 114482 >
ISBN 978-1-911114-48-2
2020