

Will anyone else know that I am working with the YOT?

We may on occasions share relevant information about you with other agencies with your consent.

However if at any point we believe that a child is being, or is at risk of being harmed, or where specific criminal activities are disclosed we will always inform and share information with the relevant agencies.

We would not need your consent to do this, but we would usually tell you.

We keep a record of our work with you, but only those workers involved with you need to see what is written.

What if I have a complaint?

You have the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination.

This means the Youth Offender Panels and YOT staff will treat you fairly whatever your race, colour, religious beliefs, gender, sexuality or disability.

You are also expected to behave equally fairly to other people.

If you feel you have not been treated fairly by Youth Offender Panels or YOT staff and wish to make a complaint, contact Calderdale YOT manager at the address on the back of this leaflet.

For further information please contact:

Calderdale Youth Offending Team
3 Trinity Place
Halifax
HX1 1BD

Telephone
01422 368279

Fax
01422 368483

E-mail
info@calderdaleyot.org.uk

Equal Opportunities

At all times you have the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination. This means the Youth Offending Panels and YOT staff will treat you fairly whatever your race, colour, sex, sexuality or disability. You are also expected to behave equally fairly towards other people.

Complaints Procedure

If you feel you have been treated unfairly or unreasonably by the YOT or Youth Offender Panels you can make a complaint. To do this, contact the Calderdale YOT Manager at the above address.

Data Protection

The Calderdale Youth Offending Team deals with personal data under the Data Protection Act 1998. Some of these may be sensitive such as criminal offences, proceedings and convictions. We may share some or all of them with other Council departments, our agents, service providers or other third parties. When involving any third party we shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that they will keep your personal data secure and treat it confidentially. If you are worried about giving us your personal details or about us sharing them with others, please discuss this with the member of staff who is dealing with your case. We will explain what you can do.

Accessibility

These information leaflets are available in a number of different formats and languages from our Halifax office, or from our website.

Calderdale
Youth Offending
Team

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Youth Offending
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Calderdale Parenting Support Services

**A straightforward guide
to the support offered
for parents, guardians
and carers**



Making Calderdale Safer

Working with Parents/Carers

Bradford Youth Offending Team believes that parents/guardians and carers* are the most important and influential people in their children's lives

Parenting can be a difficult and stressful job.

At times extra help and support may be needed, especially when a young person gets into trouble.

Many parents say they feel they have no-one to talk to and share their problems.

In this leaflet we describe how the YOT works with parents, and how we can help.

** When we refer to parents, we also include any adult who is involved in the care of a child or young person, whether or not they are living in the same household.*

My child got into trouble but I'm not a bad parent!

Getting involved with the YOT's parenting support does not mean we think you have "failed" in some way, or are a "bad" parent.

It is not meant to be a punishment to you for your child's behaviour.

All parents can go through testing and stressful times with their children, especially when they are teenagers.

It isn't easy to tell someone when things go wrong.

We want to build on skills parents already have and focus on strengths and positives, not just the problems.

Perhaps after discussion with your YOT worker we may ask you to talk to other services which give specialist help.

They would then work directly with you, but they may contact your YOT worker to let them know how you are doing.

The YOT offers Information and Advice Sessions for parents.

Each session deals with a different topic to do with teenagers, such as advice on drugs, or dealing with conflict at home.

There are six sessions on offer and you can go to one or all.

For some parents the YOT could offer a parenting programme which offers help in dealing with your child or young person's behaviour.

If your circumstances make it hard for you to take part in groups we can work with you at home.

Do I have to work with the YOT?

Wherever possible we want to work with parents voluntarily, if you have any doubts or concerns about our work please talk to your YOT worker, we will try our best to help you.

Should you decide to take up our offer of support and your child reoffends we will mention the work you did with us in any report that is required for court.

If you decide to withdraw from the support offered this will also be mentioned.

We can also offer a voluntary contract between yourselves and the YOT.

This is a signed contract of the plans agreed between you and the YOT.

It means that you agree to work with us, and that the YOT agrees to provide you with the help and support written in the contract.

If you decide to enter into the contract and your child re offends, your co-operation with the contract will be mentioned in any report on your child for court.

The court can impose Parenting Orders if they believe it is necessary and would help prevent the young person re offending.

The YOT can also recommend that the court make a Parenting Order if it is considered to be helpful in your circumstances. If this is the case the Youth Offending Team will always discuss this with you.

If you do receive a Parenting Order you will be offered similar support to parents attending voluntarily, but there may be additional conditions.

If you are on a Parenting Order and fail to comply with the requirements you can be returned to court for breaching the order.