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Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act Children and Young People in the Secure Estate

**Health and Social Services Group,
Welsh Government**

Impact of Parental Imprisonment on children and young people

Laura Tranter, Strategic Service Manager, Barnardo's
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Children affected by parental imprisonment (CAPI)

- **Priority area for action** for Barnardo's across the UK
- **Services in Wales:** Invisible Walls Wales, HMP Parc, Community Support for Offenders Families, Susan Ellis Visitors Centre, HMP Parc
- **Supporting change in Wales:** Hidden Sentence Training, Wales Reducing Reoffending Pathway, Steering Group for Social Care in the Secure Estate

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MOJ Children of Offenders Review , 2007

'It is clear for multiple reasons that children of prisoners are at higher risk than the wider child population and are likely to require extensive support. Parental imprisonment thus presents an opportunity to identify children at risk of poor outcomes and to offer support to mitigate the effects of both parental imprisonment and family circumstances'.

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Impact of a parent's imprisonment on families

Child Poverty – loss of income, cost of prison visits.

Safeguarding – stigma, bullying, caregiver distress, change in childcare.

Health – increased mental health problems, possible impact on diet.

Contributing to society – increased risk of anti social behaviour and offending in young people, negative impact on employment.

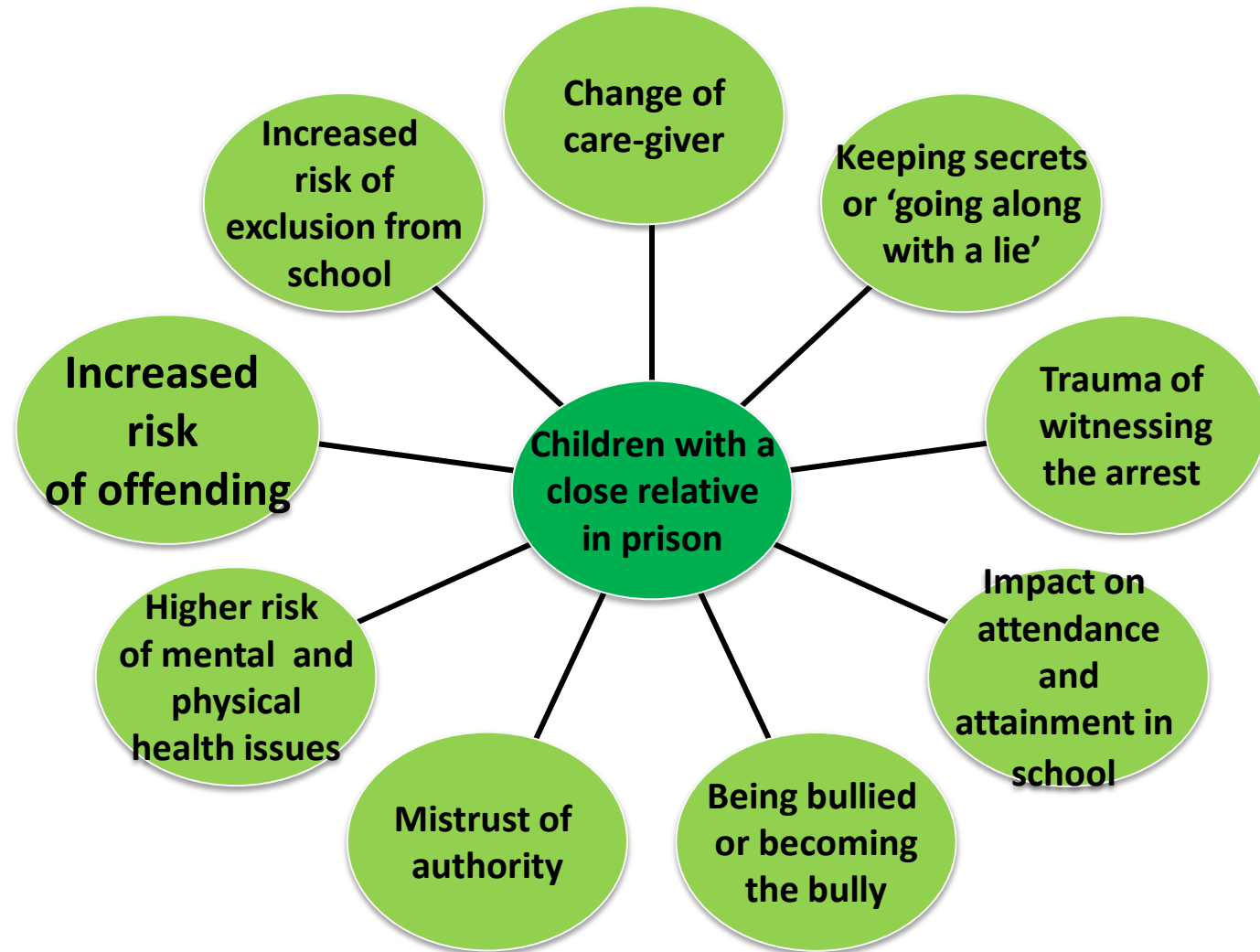
Opportunities to realise rights and enjoy well-being – higher levels of social disadvantage.

Education – higher levels of truancy, poorer educational outcomes, reduced opportunities of access to life long learning

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Children experiencing the imprisonment of a parent during their school years



Young men in YOI's who are or are shortly to become fathers



Children who witness their parent being arrested



Boys whose fathers are imprisoned who go on to offend themselves



Rhifau Cofrestru'r Elusen
216250 a SC037605

Barnardo's Registered Charity
Nos. 216250 and SC037605

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The concerns

200,000 children in England and Wales have a parent who is sent to prison each year.

This is a hidden problem – systems to monitor and capture need in relation to this population of children are not in place.

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Part 11 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act : Code of Practice

Families of those in the secure estate:

Families in Wales of those in the secure estate will have the right to the Information Advice and Assistance Service provided under section 17 of the Act, to preventative and wellbeing services and to assessment for care and support needs as for any citizen within the local authority area. The local authority where the family members are ordinarily resident would have the responsibility for their care and support needs. Local authorities should consider how they will work with the family of a prisoner to ensure they are kept informed and have access to care and support.

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Part 11 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act : National pathway for adults

- **Staff in secure facility to make referral to for a care and support assessment to the local authority where the prison is based and share information about any children the adult may have.**
- **Local authority where the prison is based will share information about any dependent children of the offender with home local authority.**

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Thank you

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