
What can I bring in to a visit?

You can bring in £15 in change so you can buy snacks and drinks. No notes are allowed in the prison. You won't be able to bring in any other items.

I find stairs difficult – what can I do?

If a family member or the prisoner is disabled, please let the booking clerk know and they will make sure your visits takes place on a lower level which is accessible by lift (a 'flat' visit).

How do I get to the prison?

Bus: Number 28 and 29 buses stop directly outside the prison.

Train: There is a regular train service from London, Eastbourne and Brighton. The station is a 5-minute taxi ride or 25-minute uphill walk.

Car: From London take A23, M23, A27 then join A275 and prison is on left

What else do I need to know?

You will not be allowed in if staff think you are drunk or under the influence of drugs. You should be appropriately addressed: ripped jeans, crop tops, football tops, mini-skirts or other skimpy clothing are not acceptable.

You **should arrive one hour early** to allow for processing.

Can I get help with the cost of a visit?

People on benefits may be able to get support from the Assisted Prison Visits Scheme. Please google: Assisted Prison Visits for more details or ask visits staff for a form.

Can I send in clothes to a prisoner?

Prisoners can put in an application within the first 28 days to clothes brought in on a weekday. These will only be accepted once the application has been approved. Please see a member of the visits staff regarding what items can and cannot be handed in. If there is no application, the clothing will not be accepted.

Can I send money to a prisoner?

Postal orders may be sent in for the prisoner's own account. These should be made payable to 'HM Prisons' with the name and number of the prisoner written on the back. You must also include the name, address and contact number of the sender.

You can also transfer money direct from your bank account. Please visit www.gov.uk/send-prisoner-money for more information.

I am worried about a prisoner. What can I do?

If you are concerned about someone in prison, you can contact the Safer Custody team on 01273 785392 or email at SaferCustodyLewes@hmps.gsi.gov.uk

HMP Lewes
1 Brighton Road
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1EA
01273 785200

Governor: Paul Woods

For information for families please visit
www.sussexprisonersfamilies.org.uk

Facebook/sussexprisonersfamilies

HMP Lewes

Information for Visitors



What happens when someone first arrives at prison?

New prisoners are interviewed and assessed to make sure they understand prison rules, know what their rights are, learn about prison courses and get the right healthcare

How can I contact a prisoner?

Letter

You can send as many letters as you like. Include their name, prison number and wing location if you know it. Most personal letters will be checked by prison staff.

Email

You can also email a prisoner. Visit: www.emailaprisoner.com for more details. Prison staff are not allowed to open letters from solicitors and courts except in exceptional circumstances. If a prisoner believes his letters are being read when they shouldn't be, there is a complaints procedure they can follow.

Phone

Prisoners can call a limited number of people. The prison runs a pin system and prisoners can add credit and make calls at certain times of day.

How do I visit a prisoner?

Convicted and sentenced prisoners are entitled to three visits a month.

Remand prisoners are entitled to two visits a week.

To book online, visit:

www.gov.uk/prison-visits. You can also book at reception at the end of a visit.

You will need the name, date of birth and Prison Number of the Prisoner you are intending to visit.

You can choose up to 3 possible dates and times and Prison booking staff will check what's available and confirm your visit by email.

Visiting times:

Mon: 14:15-15:45

Tue: 09:30-11:15 and 14:15-15:45

Wed: 14:15-15:45

Thu: 09:30-11:15 and 14:15-15:45

Fri: 09:30-11:15

Sat: 14:15 - 15:45

Sun: 14:15 - 15:45

If you don't get confirmation of your visit within three working days, contact: SocialVisits.Lewes@hmps.gsi.gov.uk or call 01273 785271 or 01273 785277. 09:30 12:00 & 14:00 -16:30hrs Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) and 09:00 – 12:00hrs and 14:00 – 16:30 Saturday and Sunday.

What Should I bring to a visit?

You need to bring your Visiting Order with you, along with your booking reference number/email confirmation and your ID. Suitable ID includes:

- Passport
- Driving licence
- Benefit book
- EC identity card
- Senior citizen's public transport pass

or you will need 2 official documents:

- Birth / marriage certificate
- Rail **or** bus pass with photo
- Cheque book **or** credit/debit card
- Young person's 'proof of age' card
- Trade Union **or** National Students' Union Card
- Library card (with signature)
- Rent book
- Foreign identity or resident's card