

# ALICES' STORY



**This is my story about when the police came to our house and took my mum away.**

I don't remember much. We were all in the living room when there was a big bang on the door. I could hear a lot of people talking and the next thing I remember is my mum being on the floor. I was very scared and was crying a lot. My mum was asking them not to hurt her arm and didn't want me or my baby brother Freddy to see. I was yelling for my mum and crying more. I remember screaming for my mum as they were fighting with my mum.


My mum told me it was okay and it is a game. The police were looking all around the house pulling things out and making a mess everywhere. I was so scared because they took my mum out the house and I didn't know what was going on. I didn't know if I was going to see her again.

After this, my mum went to prison. She sat me down the day before and told me she was going away for a bit to prison but that she loved me and I could go and see her and she would phone me every day. The first time I went to the prison for a visit I was so afraid, it looked so big with big fences around it and I was so little. They had to search me and the lady that did made me laugh because she tickled me under the arms, she was very nice and talked to me lots.

Walking in to see my mum the room was massive and I could not see my her. Then I saw her sitting down, I ran over to give her a cuddle but my mum could not get out of her chair to sit next to me. I asked my mum if she could come home with us when we leave, she said no. I just remember being upset and I didn't understand why we could leave but my mum could not. We ate lots of sweets and she cuddled me lots, it was like we were there for a long time but I did not want to leave without her. When it was time to go I held on to my mum and cried, my mum cried as well but gave me a cuddle and told me she will call me later.


On the way home I felt so sad having to leave my mum. The next time I went it was a family day and it was my birthday as well so they made a cake for me and we had a party.





My mum had my baby brother with her in prison because he was really little and still a baby but I could not stay with her because I was too old. I was scared in the prison but everyone made me feel better and I loved spending the day with my mum also seeing my mum happy and meeting other people there made me worry less about my mum and brother being in there without me. The next time I visited I was not so scared.

When my mum came home I was really happy but worried as well because she had been away from me, but we had so much fun when she came home. If I asked her about prison she would tell me and I am glad she did it helped me understand lots.



If you need support or advice on talking to a child about prison or support for a child, we run children's groups and events.

You can find FREE resources on our website or contact us by calling our

**First Stop helpline on  
01273 499 843**

**Or email  
[info@sussexprisonersfamilies.org.uk](mailto:info@sussexprisonersfamilies.org.uk)**

