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**Overview**

This standard is about helping parents in custody to acknowledge their responsibilities and rights as parents and develop positive relationships with their children.

**There are three elements**

- 1 Promote benefits of positive parenting to parents in custody
- 2 Support parents in custody to relate positively to their children
- 3 Help parents in custody to overcome parenting difficulties

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**Performance  
criteria**
**Promote benefits of positive parenting to parents in custody****You must be able to:**

- P1 discuss parental roles and responsibilities with parents in custody in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P2 communicate in ways that suit individuals' style in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P3 discuss the value of parental roles to children's development in accordance with your organisation's procedures, and:
  - P3.1 possible implications of parents not fulfilling that role
- P4 discuss the benefits resulting from strong parent and child relationships in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P5 guide individuals to activities that support parents in custody to carry out their responsibilities in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P6 provide individuals with positive examples of how effective parenting can be carried out in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P7 provide individuals with opportunities to access support for parenting in accordance with your organisation's procedures

**Support parents in custody relate positively to their children****You must be able to:**

- P8 support individuals to maintain contact and undertake appropriate activities with their children within agreed frameworks that protects children from risks,
- P9 respond to individuals' feelings about their children in accordance with your organisation's procedures, and:
  - P9.1 promote discussion
  - P9.2 reinforce positive feelings
- P10 discuss with individuals their children in accordance with your organisation's procedures, including:
  - P10.1 their individuality
  - P10.2 the value of their characteristics
- P11 explore individuals' perceptions about their children in accordance with your organisation's procedures

- P12 support individuals to understand feelings that may lie behind their children's behaviour in accordance with your organisation's procedures, and find ways of:
  - P12.1 responding to this behaviour
  - P12.2 managing this behaviour
- P13 assist individuals to develop positive action plans for their parenting roles on release from custody in accordance with your organisation's procedures

**Help parents in custody overcome parenting difficulties**

**You must be able to:**

- P14 provide supportive environments so parents in custody can discuss their parenting role in accordance with your organisation's procedures, including:
  - P14.1 any difficulties they are experiencing
- P15 acknowledge with individuals that many parents encounter problems in parenting in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P16 obtain information regarding individuals' parenting from relevant people in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P17 discuss the importance of individuals taking responsibility for their own actions in relation to their children in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P18 work with relevant people to assist individuals in carrying out their parenting roles in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P19 record progress made by individuals with their parenting role in accordance with your organisation's procedures
- P20 report progress to relevant people in accordance with your organisation's procedures

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## Knowledge and understanding

### You need to know and understand:

- K1 the value of parent and child relationships
- K2 types of difficulties parents in custody experience
- K3 the damage caused by difficulties to both parents and children
- K4 the impact of parental imprisonment on children
- K5 the rights and responsibilities of parents in custody
- K6 basic stages of child development
- K7 how children's needs and expectations for parental support change
- K8 the importance of child protection
- K9 how to manage risks that children with parents in custody may be exposed to
- K10 how to communicate with parents in custody on matters relating to parenting
- K11 types of contact parents in custody can have with their children
- K12 how to make the best of contact between parents and children
- K13 how to promote positive parenting examples to parents in custody
- K14 sources of support for parenting
- K15 the importance of being non-judgmental in regard to negative feelings that parents may have about their children
- K16 the importance of parents talking about positive feelings they have about their children
- K17 the importance of discussing children's individuality and positive characteristics
- K18 types of feelings that children may have about parents in custody
- K19 children's experience of child and parent relationships
- K20 how children's feelings can lead to behaviour that seems negative to parents
- K21 how to help parents in custody to develop action plans for their parenting role on release from custody
- K22 how to create positive environments for individuals to talk freely about their parenting difficulties

- K23 the importance of discussing difficulties that parents are experiencing to show that these difficulties are not unique to them
- K24 the importance of complementing support that parents in custody receive from other sources
- K25 the importance of parents taking responsibility for their actions
- K26 positive contributions that others can make to support parents
- K27 why it is important to work with other organisations who may be involved in decisions about children's welfare and future
- K28 the importance of considering the needs of all parties in the work you undertake
- K29 the importance of recording and reporting progress that individuals make in their parenting role

## Additional Information

### Glossary

**Relevant people** can refer to individuals, others relevant or significant to individuals, staff in your own agency including investigating teams or staff from other agencies.

**Organisational procedures** can include prison service instructions, prison policies, legislative policies and any other policies and procedures used across custodial care in the UK.

## SFJGH2

### Assist parents in custody to develop their parenting skills

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<b>Developed by</b>	Skills for Justice
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<b>Originating organisation</b>	Skills for Justice
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<b>Original URN</b>	SFJ GH2
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<b>Relevant occupations</b>	Prison staff; Prison manager; Governor; Officers; Public Service Professionals; Youth Justice Officers; Youth Offending Team Officers
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<b>Suite</b>	Custodial Care
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<b>Key words</b>	Children; relationships; action plans; support; positive; difficulties; contact; parenting; responsibility; perceptions; characteristic; non-judgemental
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