

HM PRISON BERWYN

BACKGROUND

In 2014, permission was granted for the North Wales Prison to be built in Wrexham. Berwyn was officially named on the 17th of February 2016, and opened on 27th of February 2017. Built on a former Firestone Tyre site on the Wrexham Industrial Estate, Berwyn is the largest prison in England and Wales and is the second largest prison in Europe.

Berwyn is a smoke-free closed rehabilitation establishment which holds 2,106 category C men. There are three houses. Alwen, Bala and Ceiriog. Ceiriog will function as a short term and remand house, serving two Crown Courts and three Magistrates Courts in North Wales. Each house is divided into eight communities that can accommodate up to 88 men. Ogwen is our Care and Support Unit (CaSU), and accommodates up to 21 men. The entire site is comprised of modern buildings.

Governor:	Russ Trent
Address:	HM Prison Berwyn Bridge Road Wrexham Industrial Estate Wrexham North Wales LL13 9QE
Telephone:	01978 523000
Category:	Male, Category C Establishment
Certified normal accommodation:	2,106
Operational Capacity:	2,106
Region:	North Wales
Director:	Simon Boddis, Director of HMPPS in Wales
Escort Area/Contractor:	GEOAmey
Local County Authority:	Wrexham
Local District Authority:	Wrexham
Constabulary:	North Wales
Probation Service:	Wrexham/North Wales
Her Majesty's Inspector of Prisons (HMIP) Latest Report	Uninspected

Reception criteria: 18+, Cat C male establishment. Sentenced to 4 years or more years. Berwyn does not accept men with convictions for sexual offences. There is no vulnerable person accommodation

Social Visits

Monday to Thursday

08:45 – 11:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 08:00 hours

14:00 – 16:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 13:00 hours

17:45 – 19:00 hours Guests are able to book in from 16:30 hours

Friday

08:45 – 11:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 08:00 hours

13:45 – 16:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 13:00 hours

Saturday and Sunday

09:00 – 11:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 08:00 hours

13:45 – 16:00 hours Guests are able to book in from 13:00 hours

You may contact the visit booking line on 01978 523300 for general visit enquiries.

Social visits must be booked with Assisted Prison Visits Unit (APVU) online or by telephone:

Online: www.gov.uk/prison-visits

Telephone: **0300 060 6505**

You will not be allowed to visit unless you have booked.

On each visit a maximum of three adults are allowed, with accompanying children.

Visiting places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis and, other than in an emergency, social visits must be booked at least twenty four hours in advance.

Men are also able to book visits for themselves using the UniLink computers. Once the visit is booked, the man will receive a confirmation message and he can then inform his visitors.

Visits can be booked up to a maximum of seven days in advance and preferably at least twenty four hours in advance.

Official/Legal Visits

Official guests will be permitted to enter with document files (subject to search), but not with mobile phones. Audio and video playing facilities will be made available if requested at the time of booking. Visits will be conducted privately in official visit booths available.

Legal representatives will be allowed to bring a laptop computer into the establishment, for use during legal visits only and with the correct authority letter. All equipment brought into the establishment by legal representatives must be checked in and out by searching staff. Any items found to be mission will be reported to Security immediately.

Monday to Thursday

08:45 – 11:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 08:00 hours

14:00 – 16:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 13:00 hours

Friday

08:45 – 11:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 08:00 hours

13:45 – 16:30 hours Guests are able to book in from 13:00 hours

Our dedicated booking line is staffed Monday to Friday between 0830-1630 hours. Official visitors can book by phone or via email:

E-mail: Legalvisits.Berwyn@hmpr.gsi.gov.uk

Telephone: 01978 523300

ID

All guests to closed prisons, adults and children visiting for official or social purposes, must prove their identity at the visits centre.

When arriving, all domestic and legal guests will have their ID checked. All adult guests will be entered on the Biometric system, using finger prints and will have their photograph taken on this system.

If you are visiting for the first time, you will need to bring identification with you. Acceptable forms of ID are listed below. In addition to this, two addressed letters that are no more than six month old must be supplied. A utility bill for gas, electric, internet or bank statement will be accepted.

Social and Domestic Visitors

- Passport, including foreign passports, and time expired passports where the photograph is still recognisable

- EC identity card
- Driving licence
- Senior citizen's public transport pass issued by a local authority
- Employer's or student ID card, but only if it clearly shows the name of the visitor and the employer or educational establishment, and has a photograph or signature which can be compared with the visitor's appearance or signature, and if the employer or educational establishment on the named card is known to exist
- Citizen card
- Official or Professional Guests

The forms of identification set out below are acceptable. If a guest does not possess such identification then the forms of identification for social guests are also acceptable. If in doubt, staff may telephone the guests employer (e.g. solicitors office, barrister's chambers, probation department) to check the guest is bona fide. Phone numbers will be sourced by our staff and not from our guest.

- Members of either House of Parliament: Houses of Parliament ID card
- Legal Advisers: Identity card used by firm/chambers, or introductory letter on headed letter paper of firm/chambers
- Police, Immigration and Customs Officers: Warrant card
- Probation Officers: Probation department ID card
- Staff from other prisons, HQ or Home Office Staff: Prison service security pass or home office pass
- Consular Officials: Consular ID card
- Other Public Officials: Departmental or local authority pass or ID card (but only if it shows the name of the visitor and the name of the department or local authority)
- Social Workers: Identification cards
- Researchers: Security Photo pass or official letter (visits must be pre-arranged)
- NHS: Photographic identification badge/card. Independent sector healthcare photographic identification badge/card

If the guest is unable to produce one of the above, staff may accept combinations of two or more of the following:

- Birth/Marriage certificate
- Rail or buss pass with photo
- Cheque book or credit/debit card (counts as one, do not accept as two)

- Employer's pass or ID or student ID card not acceptable under Official or Professional guests
- Young person's 'proof of age' card
- Trade Union or National Student's Union membership card
- Library card, if it has a signature that can be compared with the visitor's signature
- Rent book
- Foreign identity or resident's card (other than EC ID cards acceptable in their own right)
- Expired documents from the above lists that appear satisfactory in other ways

ID Cards from a recognised prison visitors' organisation are accepted (e.g. New Bridge) The name on the card may differ from that on the VO, but provided the visitor has other identification to back up the ID card, and provided that staff have no reason to doubt their bona fides, then this will form acceptable identification.

Staff retain discretion to accept any other forms of identification, singly or in combination, that clearly identify the visitor in a satisfactory way.

Visitor's Centre

You may contact the visitor's centre on 01978 523307 for queries. The visitor's centre staff are not able to book visits.

As we ramp the population up, the visitor's centre will have restricted opening times. When we are fully open. The visits centre will be staffed from:

Monday to Thursday

0800 – 1930 hours

Friday

0800 – 1630 hours

Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays

0830 – 1630 hours

The centre will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day.

When you leave the Visitor's Centre to enter the prison for your visit you can only have the following items in your possession:

- Money (maximum £30 per visit, coins only. Notes are not accepted by vending machines at present. Vending machines are in the process of being upgraded, so that they can accept the new £5 note and £1 coins.

All other items should be left in the lockers provided. You will be given a PIN number for a locker for you to store the rest of your property.