

Empowering Female Prisoners Through Media Skills at Downview

At present, **women reentering the community** after prison face more **significant challenges** in securing employment compared to men.

Less than 10% of these women have a job lined up upon their release.

A major **barrier** to accessing job opportunities, training, or educational programs is the **lack of affordable childcare** support. It is estimated that 17,000 children are affected by maternal imprisonment every year.

The Media House at HMP Downview offers a 20 week long BTEC National Certificate in Media Production, offering opportunities for broadcasting unit participation.

It cultivates skills and experience in Film and Media, with specific focus on mental wellbeing and employability.

The course also specialises in production for prisons' TV channels, creating professional media products for prisons in London and the South East.

“*I can honestly say that this course has been **one of the most exciting things I have ever achieved in my whole life.** It has given me hope for the future because the skills I have learned have made me feel that even though I have a prison record, I have hope that once I leave prison my life with my new skills is just beginning.*”

Rose, 27,
BTEC Digital Media,
IJP production trainee

“*I might be the first in my family to come to prison, but I'm the first one to attend university too.*”

Amy, 23
BTEC Digital Media
IJP production trainee

100%
pass rate



participants did research for BBC woman's hour



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graduates employed at national organizations