

HIGH DOWN PRISON TRUST

£7,185

High Down is a maximum security prison on the outskirts of London. The inspired librarian there started a 'Stories to Tape' project to encourage inmates to make recordings for their children. This has improved literacy levels and family relations. Funding was sought for workshops, books, leaflets and a peer reading scheme.

Over 200 tapes of fathers reading stories, nursery rhymes or singing to their children and families have been dispatched. The librarian has now started creative writing courses once a week so inmates can then read their own stories onto the tapes. One of the prisoners involved, Paul, was delighted to hear that his daughter was carrying around her little portable tape player permanently so she could listen to her daddy's voice.