

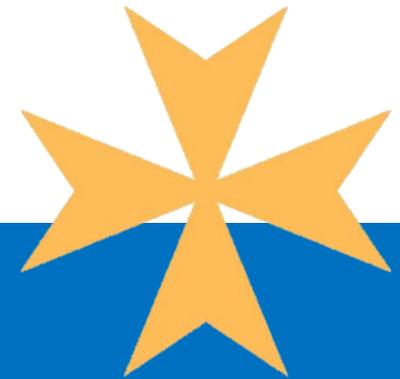


ASPIRE Project

Stigma dismantled, dignity upheld

Child rights standards for children affected by parental imprisonment

Caritas Malta Community Centre, 12 June 2025



The ASPIRE project: Exploring a national approach to improve outcomes for children in Wales with a parent in prison

Prof Nancy Loucks OBE



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Improving Wellbeing and Educational Outcomes for Children in Wales Affected by Parental Imprisonment: Scoping Study

N. Loucks, S. Beresford, P. Wright, B. Raikes, A. Reiss, F. Kenny, and S. Stevenson

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2025-03/improving-wellbeing-and-educational-outcomes-for-children-in-wales-affected-by-parental-imprisonment-scoping-study.pdf>



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A recap

- **Aim: to provide options and considerations for a national model of support to improve wellbeing and educational outcomes for children in Wales affected by parental imprisonment**
- **ASPIRE collaboration (Actioning a School and Prison Independent Research Evaluation)**
- **Children's rights central**
- **Expert Advisory Group**

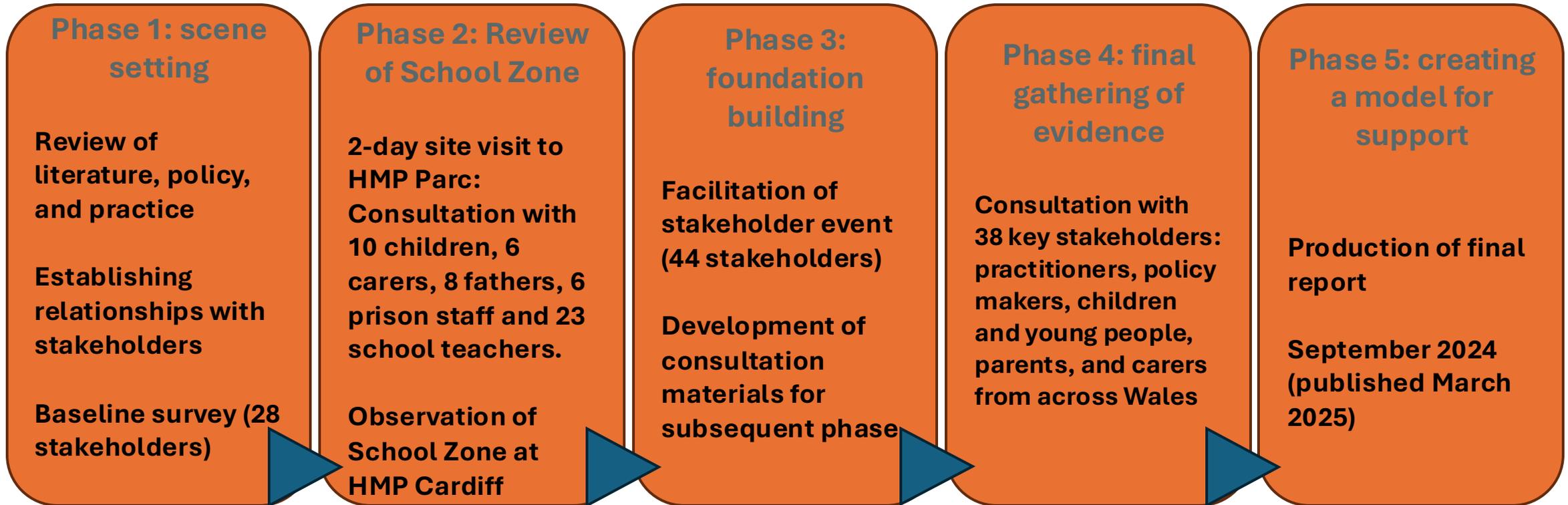


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Project delivery



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Research, policy, and practice review

- Limited literature on what works in improving outcomes for children
- Disconnect between prison-focused policies promoting family contact and policies relating to the needs and rights of children
- Positive pockets of support in prisons, schools, and communities as well as Wales-specific resources
- Detailed research, policy, and practice review documents accompany the final report



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Case study: HMP Parc School Zone Model



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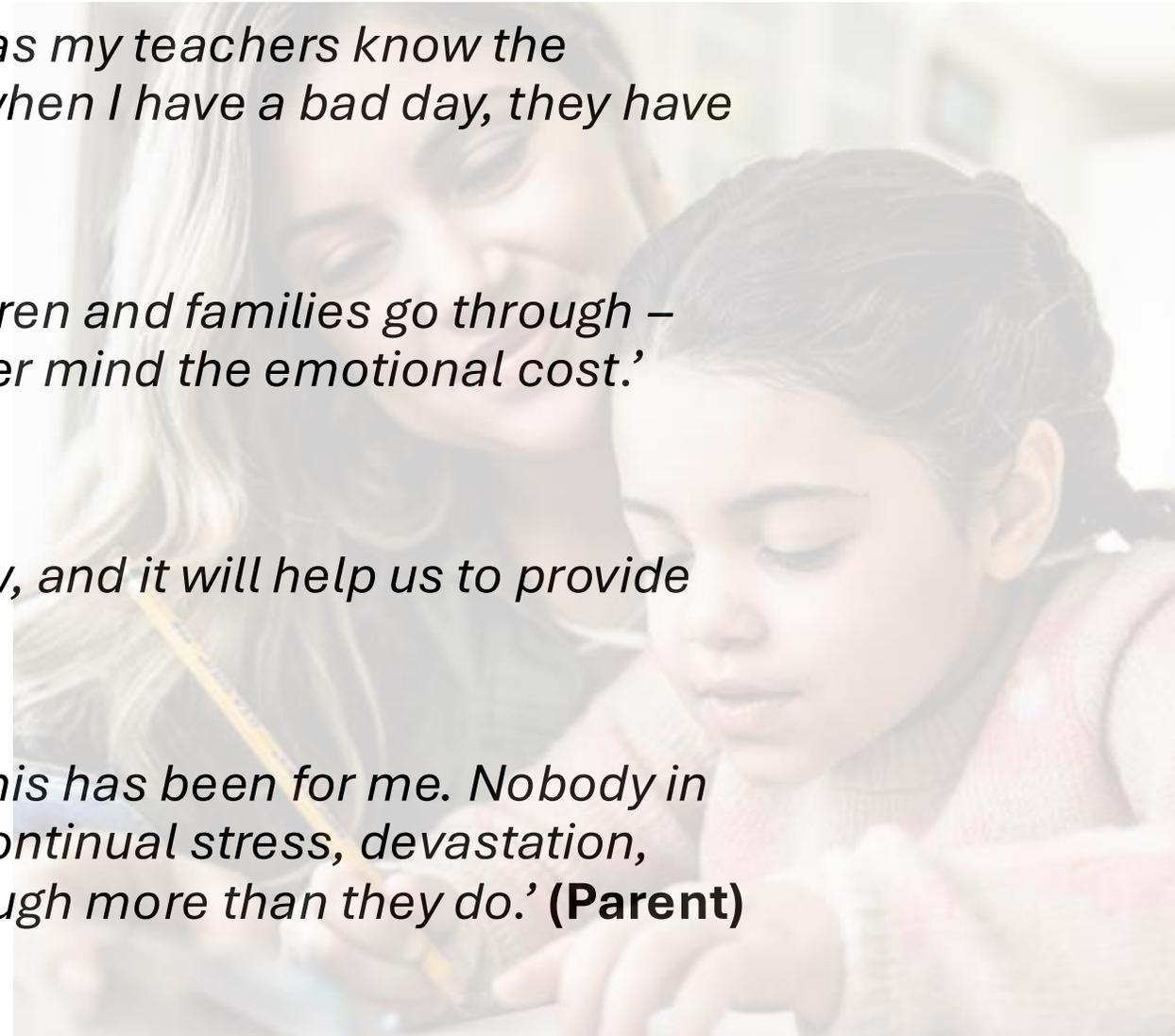
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'It helps me feel more comfortable in school as my teachers know the seriousness of what's going on with Dad, so when I have a bad day, they have a better understanding.' **(Young person)**

'This has really opened my eyes to what children and families go through – even the cost of getting here [the prison], never mind the emotional cost.' **(Teacher)**

'We will understand their behaviour more now, and it will help us to provide consistent support.' **(Teacher)**

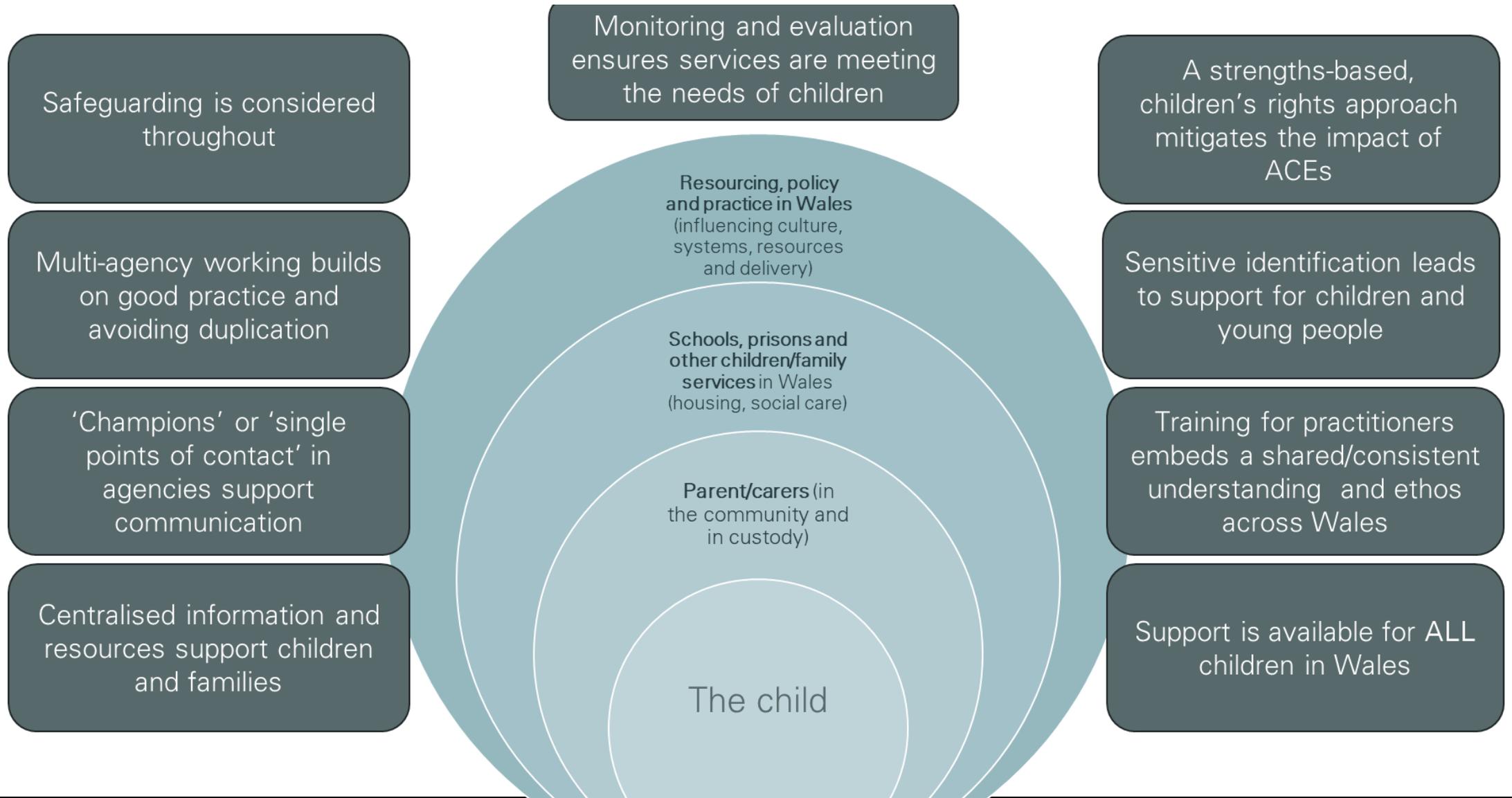
'I can't even begin to explain how beneficial this has been for me. Nobody in the outside world seems to understand the continual stress, devastation, emotions and daily obstacles that we go through more than they do.' **(Parent)**



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Thank you!

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