

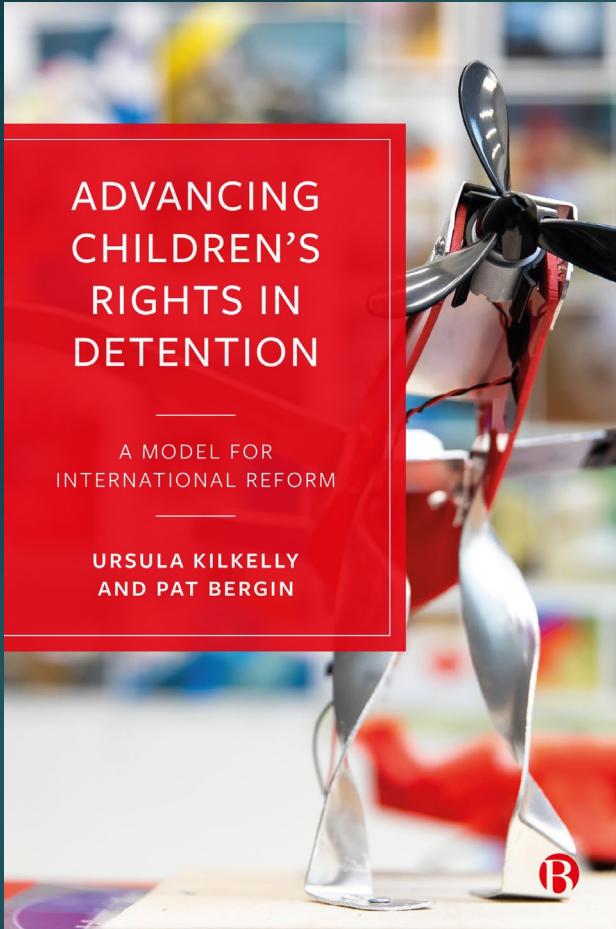
Effecting Change: Learning from the experience of Oberstown

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PROFESSOR URSULA KILKELLY & PAT BERGIN

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

▶ 3RD MARCH 2022



Advancing Children's Rights in Detention

By Ursula Kilkelly and Pat Bergin

"A nuanced, detailed, critical analysis of a child-centered approach to detention with a unique focus on practical application of child rights theory, policy and standards. A must-read for every child rights advocate who cares about youth justice."

Professor Nancy E. Dowd, University of Florida

- ▶ *"This book constitutes a tour de force in presenting an advanced theoretical approach, based on practical experience, to propose a theory of change that should inspire all practitioners willing to engage in the complex process of bringing together the rights of the child and the context of detention with regard to international standards."*
- ▶ **Benoit Van Keirsbilck**, Member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child and of the Advisory Board of the Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty

bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/advancing-childrens-rights-in-detention

Then...

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- ▶ Children under 16 years detained in poor conditions, fragmented services, three/four detention schools
- ▶ Children over 16 years in St Patrick's Institution
- ▶ Law and Policy – set an expectation for child-centred detention for all under 18 years
- ▶ Resources –€56M new building



Now...

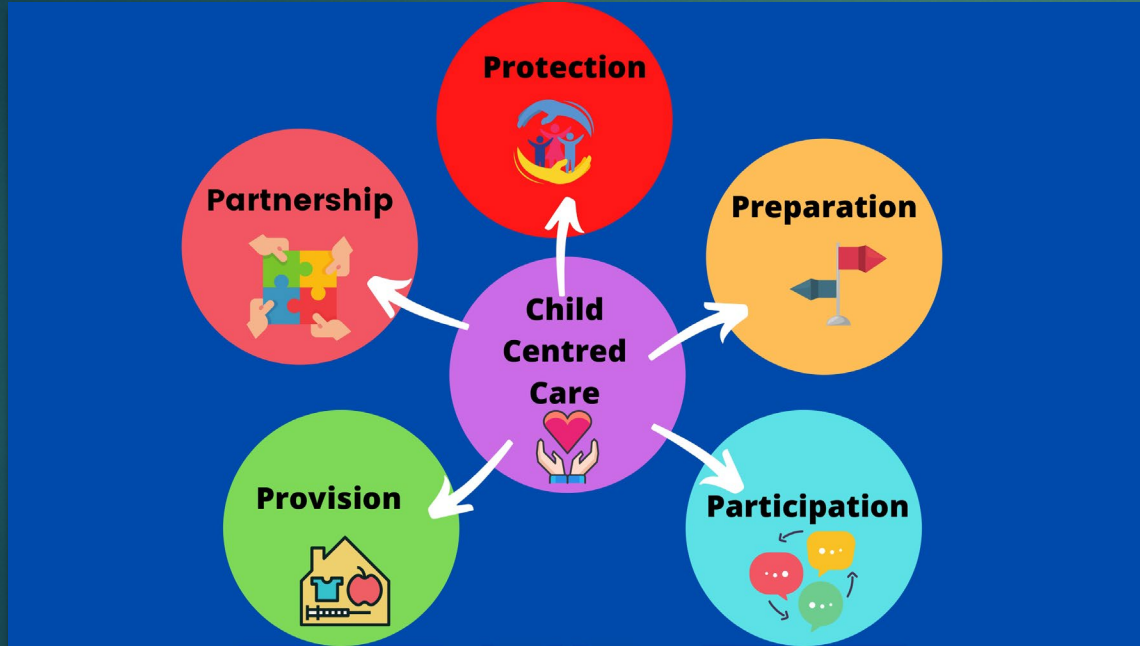
Through systematic, year on year progress,
publicly reported and independently verified

Oberstown is a professional, specialist national
service that is child-centred and rights-based – for
all children under 18

No children are detained in adult prison



Implementing the Vision



Grounded

Supported

Understood

Key Strategic Priorities

- ▶ Young people
- ▶ Staff
- ▶ Standards and Policies
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Governance and accountability





Young people

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- ▶ Services for young people
- ▶ CEHOP Model of Care
- ▶ Restrictive Practices
- ▶ Participation / advocacy

Staff

- ▶ Culture
- ▶ Change management
- ▶ Staff well-being
- ▶ Innovation



Standards and Policies

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- ▶ Creating a single policy base
 - ▶ Young people
 - ▶ Staff
 - ▶ Professional services
- ▶ Children's Rights Policy Framework
- ▶ HIQA Judgement Framework

WHAT ARE THESE RULES ABOUT?

The Rules cover all the parts of Oberstown's approach to your safety and care.

1. Care
2. Education & Recreation
3. Health
4. Offending Behaviour
5. Preparation for Leaving
6. Safeguarding
7. Consultation & Participation
8. Positive Behaviour
9. Restrictive Practices
10. Staffing, Management & Governance
11. Physical Environment
12. Authority to Suspend the Rules

The first five Rules are about what we do through CEHOP, which is what we call Oberstown's model of care.

The rest of the Rules look at other important things that help keep you safe and secure on Campus.

USEFUL CONTACTS

On Campus

Gráinne Smyth
Advocacy Officer

Bill Byrne
Designated Liaison Person

Ombudsman for Children's Office (OCO)

Ombudsman for Children's Office
Millennium House
52-56 Great Strand Street
Dublin 1
Tel: 01 865 6800
Email: oco@oco.ie

To speak to an OCO caseworker, you can ring Freephone 1800 20 20 40

An OCO representative visits Oberstown each month and can meet with you. Talk to your keyworker.

EPIC – Empowering People in Care

7 Red Cow Lane
Smithfield
Dublin 7, D07 RX52
Tel: 01 822 7661
Email: info@epiconline.ie

OBERSTOWN
CAMPUS
CARE
EDUCATION
HEALTH
WELLBEING

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS POLICY FRAMEWORK

WHAT DO THE 12 Campus Rules MEAN FOR ME?

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY THE 12 CAMPUS RULES?

The Rules are 12 standards that have been set to make sure that Oberstown is a place where:

- young people are safe
- young people get the best care possible
- children's rights are respected.

The Government has approved the Rules under the Children Act 2001.

Outside inspectors will use the Rules to check how well Oberstown is providing services to you.

Communication

- ▶ Internal
- ▶ Research and data
- ▶ Influencing
- ▶ Public debate

PROFILE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN DETENTION

FIND FULL
Q1 DATA REPORT ON
OBERSTOWN.COM

Publications & Resources



Governance and Accountability

Code of Practice for the Governance of
State Bodies

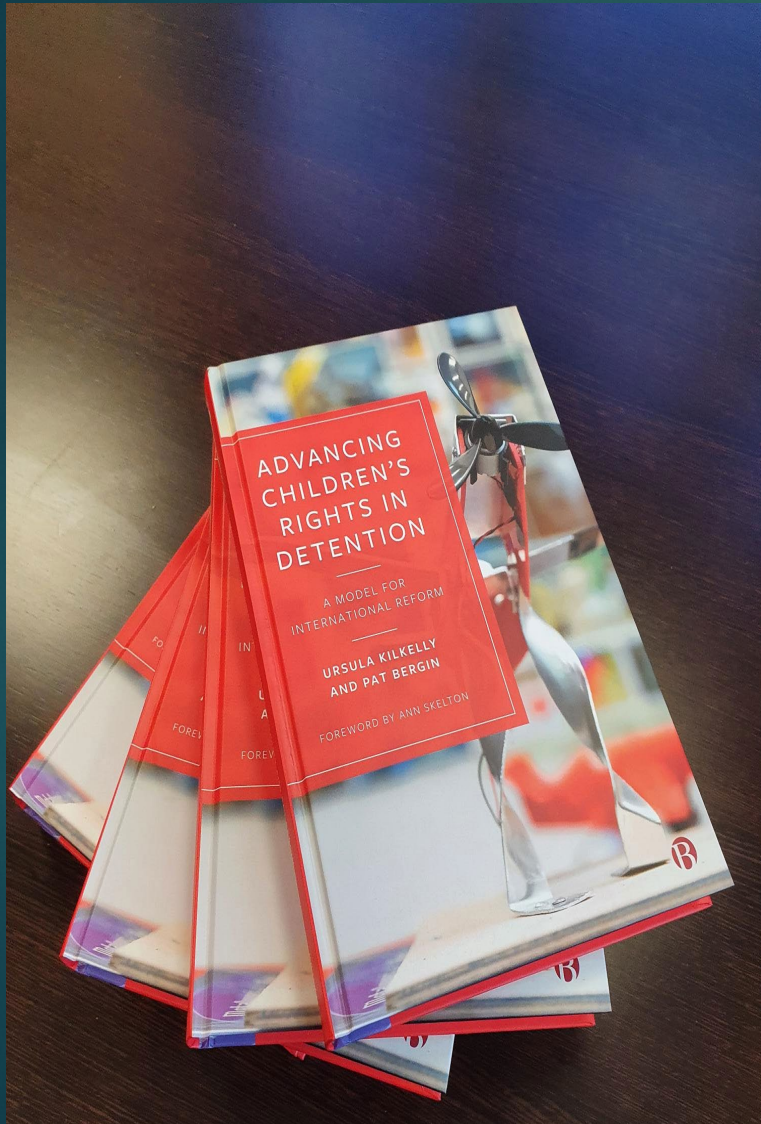


An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

- ▶ Change and professionalism
- ▶ Leadership development
- ▶ Accountability and Decision Making
- ▶ Monitoring and Inspection



An tÚdarás Um Fhaisnéis
agus Cáilíocht Sláinte



Key influence(r)s



International
bodies



Civil society
pressure



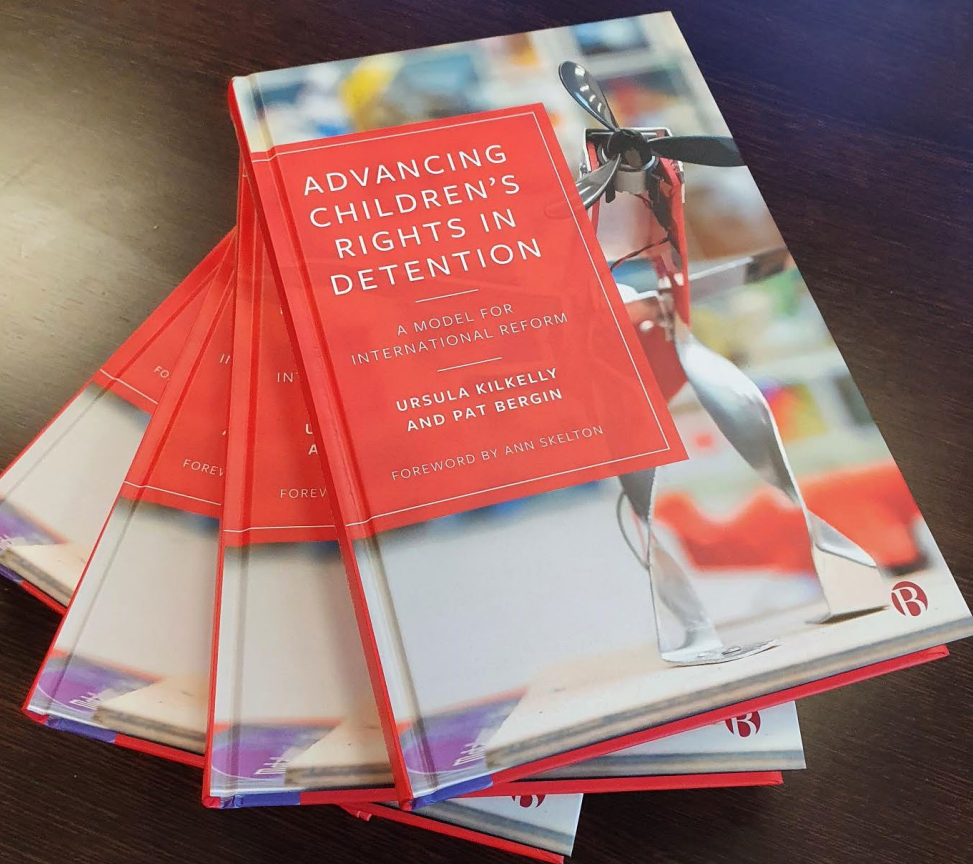
Parliamentary
scrutiny



Media

Learning

- ▶ Planned change
- ▶ Vision and strategy
- ▶ Autonomy/Governance
- ▶ Stakeholder and professional input
- ▶ Resilient leadership



What it takes



- ▶ Political commitment – ambition – follow through (law, policy, resources)
- ▶ Leadership – at every level – everywhere
- ▶ Partnership – collaboration
- ▶ Flexibility - agility
- ▶ Common purpose ... and resolve

Conclusions

- ▶ Implementing transformative change is complex
- ▶ Change is perpetual
- ▶ Learn, share and value

