

What children should expect at youth court

4 August 2025

We worked closely with the <u>Youth Justice Legal Centre [http://www.yjlc.uk/]</u> and <u>Just for Kids Law [https://www.justforkidslaw.org/]</u> to explore what children should expect from a solicitor.

This easy to read leaflet

[https://contact.sra.org.uk/globalassets/documents/solicitors/youth-court-leaflet.pdf] explains how solicitors can help them. It was tested with children and solicitors and has been well received. You can <u>request printed versions</u> [https://form.sra.org.uk/s3/youth-court].

You can also use the information in our <u>good practice guide</u> [https://contact.sra.org.uk/solicitors/resources/continuing-competence/good-practice-guide/] to help your clients understand what to expect from you.

Resources to help children

Use these resources to help explain the youth justice system to children:

- The Ministry of Justice has a <u>Youth Justice Charter</u> [<a href="https://youthjusticecharter.campaign.gov.uk/know-your-rights/] that explains the standards that a child can expect from the people and organisations they might meet in the youth justice system.
- The Youth Justice Legal Centre has <u>short videos for young people</u> <u>about the criminal justice system [http://www.yjlc.uk/resources/explainer-videos-young-people]</u>
- <u>'Going to court' [http://www.socialworkerstoolbox.com/going-court-booklet-children-young-people-going-witnesses-crown-magistrates-youth-court/]</u> is a booklet for children who are going to be witnesses in court.

Resources for solicitors

- <u>Keep your knowledge and skills up to date in the youth court system</u> [https://contact.sra.org.uk/solicitors/resources/continuing-competence/knowledge-skills/]
- Working with other organisations in the youth justice system [https://contact.sra.org.uk/solicitors/resources/continuing-competence/other-organisations/]
- Communicating and engaging effectively with children in the youth <u>court system [https://contact.sra.org.uk/solicitors/resources/continuing-competence/communication-engagement/]</u>