



What children should expect at youth court

4 August 2025

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

This [easy to read leaflet](#)

[<https://qltt.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 [request printed versions](#) [<https://form.sra.org.uk/s3/youth-court/>].

You can also use the information in our [good practice guide](#) [<https://qltt.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 [Youth Justice Charter](#) [<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 [short videos for young people about the criminal justice system](#) [<http://www.yjlc.uk/resources/explainer-videos-young-people/>].
- 'Going to court' [<http://www.socialworkerstoolbox.com/going-court-booklet-children-young-people-going-witnesses-crown-magistrates-youth-court/>] is a booklet for children who are going to be witnesses in court.

Resources for solicitors

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