Witness Service

Young witnesses

27 February 2026

Information for young witnesses

If you've been asked to come to court, it's because you have information about something that happened that may be a crime. This does not mean you've done anything wrong and you are not in any trouble. It's completely normal to feel nervous, uncertain, or to have questions about what happens next.

We've created a going to court video playlist designed to explain the court process, so you can feel more confident and prepared to give your best evidence. Your job as a witness is just to tell the court what you know, in your own words, and to tell the truth.

You can work through them at your own pace to understand what to expect, who you might meet, and how to get support if you need it.

Explore the video playlist for young witnesses

Information for parents, carers and guardians

If your child or a young person in your care has been asked to go to court as a witness, it's because they have information that could help explain what happened in a situation that might be a crime. This might feel daunting for both of you, and it's completely understandable to have questions about how you can best support them.

You may wish to work through our video playlist with them to help you explain what will happen so they can feel as prepared, and confident as possible. The videos have been designed for different age groups, so you can decide what's most appropriate and engaging for the young person you care for.

For more detailed information about supporting a young witness, you can also download the following leaflet:

Download the Supporting Young Witnesses Leaflet

You can find out more about supporting a young witness at the following:

- My Support Space has useful guides on Talking to children and Post-court support
- YoungMinds provide useful information for parents on supporting wellbeing