



# Going to the Royal Court

## A guide for young witnesses

Going to Court might feel scary, especially if you don't know what's going to happen.

Here are some facts and things you can expect.



### Where will I go?

If you go to the Royal Court, you'll probably go to **Court 2**. It's less formal.

### Who will be there?

The only people that can be in the Court are:

- members and officers of the Court
- people who are involved in your case — your advocate, your parent, guardian or another adult that's supporting you like a social worker
- people from the news media, but they can't name anyone under 18.

Anyone else must have permission from the court to be there.

### Will I have support?

**Yes.** You should have the opportunity to talk to someone before the trial. They will write an assessment of what you need and make sure you get the right support. They will also set out rules so everyone at the Court know what sorts of questions they can and can't ask you.

You will also have support from a member of the Court staff.



## What should happen?

### You should:

- feel safe
- be given an opportunity to visit the court and meet the staff before the trial
- be told who will be involved in the trial and what they will do
- be given all the information you need to take part, including a timetable of what's happening
- be able to sit with an adult that's supporting you
- be able to give evidence in a way that suits your needs
- get breaks during the trial if you need them
- be told about any decisions the Court makes in ways that are easy to understand.

### You should not:

- feel unsafe
- feel pressured to take part.

## Is there anything else I need to know?

**Yes. The court should make sure you have your rights.** All children and young people have rights, no matter who they are, where they live or what they have done. These rights are in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. (CRC). The CRC makes sure children and young people:

- are safe
- are treated fairly
- have the things they need to survive and develop
- have a say in decisions that affect their lives.

To find out more about the Royal Court scan here:



[gov.je/government/nonexeclegal/judicialgreffe](http://gov.je/government/nonexeclegal/judicialgreffe)

