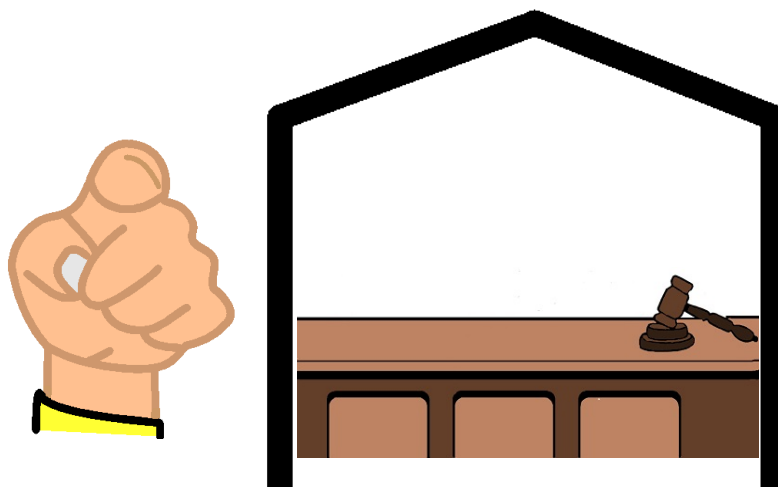




## Tips from other parents



## You are at Court

the **Bumpy** Road

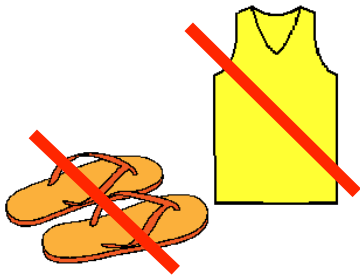
Easy English fact sheets for parents dealing with the child protection system. Advice from parents with experience.

## 1. Clothes



Wear clean clothes.

Check your clothes are tidy. Like



Do **not** wear a singlet top.

Do **not** wear thongs.

## 2. How you feel



Court can make you

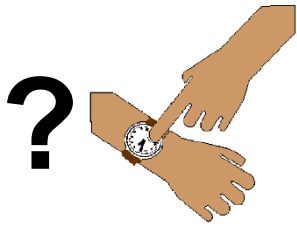
- feel scared
- feel angry
- worry.

That is OK.



Take someone with you.

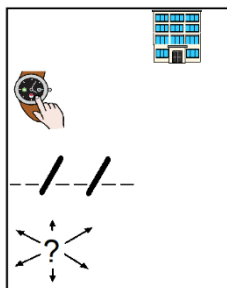
They are your support person.



### 3. The time to be at Court

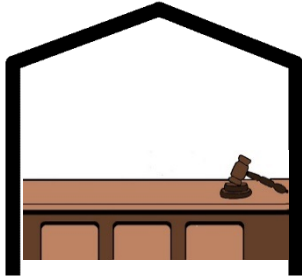


Be on time to Court.

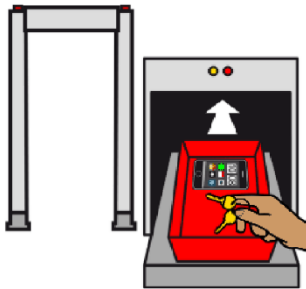


Your Community Services papers tell you the

- date
- time
- place.



#### 4. At the Court



We all need to be safe.

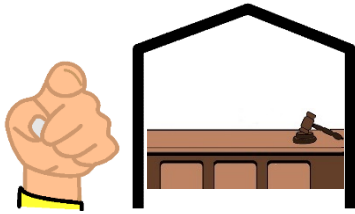
You walk through a machine.

You may need to take your coat off.

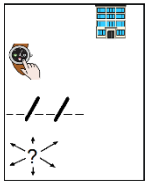
Your bag goes through the machine.

Put everything from your pockets in a tray.

It goes through the machine too.



## 5. Your day at Court



You need to take some things with you. Like

- the papers from Community Services
- your CentreLink statement
- your bank statement for the last 3 months.

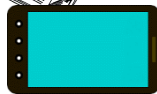


You need to wait for your turn in the Court room.

You may need to wait all day. Take



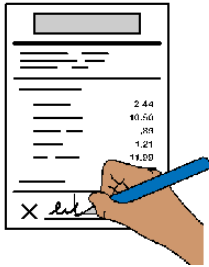
- food
- drink
- something to do. Like



- magazine to read
- ipad.



## 6. Help in Court



You may need to fill in a form. It is from Legal Aid.



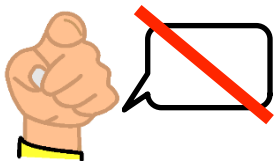
You will get a lawyer.

He is called a duty lawyer.

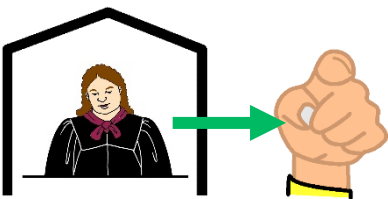
Ask your lawyer any questions you have.



Your lawyer speaks for you in court.



Do **not** talk in Court.

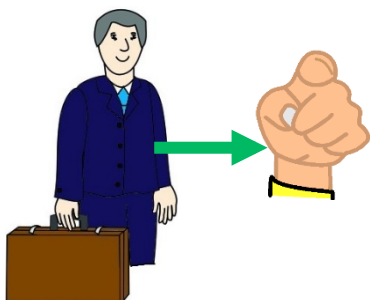


The only time you can talk is when

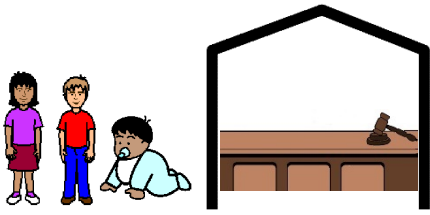
- the magistrate asks **you** a question. She may say I need to hear from the parent.

Speak so the magistrate can hear you

or

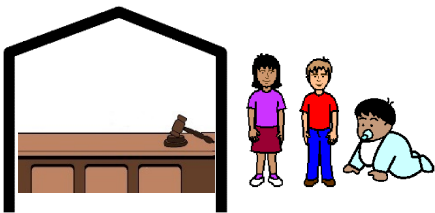


- your lawyer asks you a question. You can talk to your lawyer. Use a quiet voice.



## 7. Court about children.

This is called a **closed Court**



Court is about your children. The magistrate says who can be in the Court room.



Ask your lawyer when you want

- a support person in Court
- an advocate in Court.

  
Ability Rights Cent

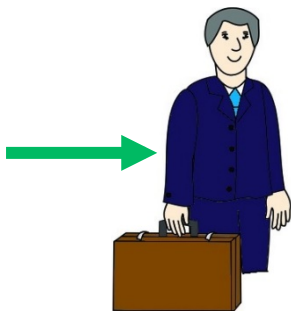


The Ability Rights Centre can help you find a support person

Call 9265 6350.



## More information



This fact sheet is general information.

It may **not** be the same for you.

It is **not** legal advice.

Talk to a lawyer about

- your own child
- your family.



This fact sheet was made by

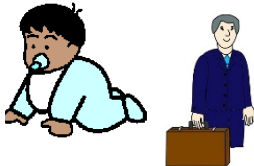
- The WASH House
- The Ability Rights Centre. A service of IDRS  
with
- a Parent Advisory Group, 2020.

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Access Easy English helped The WASH House

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