

Youth Caution

What is a Youth Caution?

A Youth Caution is a caution which may be given to young people under the age of 18 years old after committing a criminal offence.

A Youth Caution is given to a young person by a police officer usually at the Police Station. The Youth Offending Team are informed of all Youth Cautions and may offer a programme of work designed to help you stop offending again.

What Happens Now?

The Police will inform the Youth Offending Team that a Youth Caution is to be delivered.

The Youth Offending Team will contact you and your parents/carers to arrange a visit

The Youth Offending Team officer will then undertake an assessment with you to work out how best to help you stay out of trouble in the future.

Any work done as part of a youth caution is designed to help you think about:

- your behaviour
 - the harm your offending can do to yourself
 - the harm your offending can do to others
 - reparation or work with your victim/s
 - your plan for the future and how you will deal with your problems
 - how you will be supported to access services
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What do I have to do?

You have to:

- let your worker know if you change address
 - attend your appointments on time
 - let your worker know if you are unable to attend your appointment
 - keep out of trouble
 - work with the YOT on the Youth Caution plan
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What happens if I do not co-operate with my Youth Caution?

If you fail to co-operate then you will:

- be encouraged to engage and attend, with any barriers being addressed
 - be told that if you get into trouble in the future, not co-operating with the youth caution will be a factor that assists in the decision making about a further out of court disposal or prosecution.
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Are Youth Cautions added to police records?

Youth Cautions are not convictions, but are formal criminal justice disposals. Youth Cautions come under the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and do not need to be disclosed unless you have been specifically asked if you have ever received a Caution. However, if you are asked to complete a full DBS check a Youth Caution will show up.

Equal Opportunities

We seek to treat everybody fairly and without discrimination. We will not accept racist, sexist or any other offensive remarks or behaviour from members of staff or young people and their families.

Complaints

If you are not happy about the service you receive you should talk to your YOT Worker. If you still feel dissatisfied you can raise your issues with the Youth Offending Team Manager, using the contact details below.

West Berkshire Youth Offending Team

Merchant House, 14-20 Oxford Road, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1PA.

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