

Youth caution



What is a youth caution?

A youth caution is something you can be given by the police because of behaviour you have committed that is against the law.

It is usually given to you at the police station by a police officer. They can give you this caution even without you agreeing to it.

The police then tell the youth justice service they have given you this caution so that we can get in touch with you.

This is a consequence that can be used to offer you some support to hopefully avoid getting into trouble again.

Who is the youth justice service?

We are a team of people who work together to try and support young people to make better choices with their behaviour and avoid getting into trouble with police.

What do I need to do?

You will be offered appointments each week (unless told otherwise) where you will meet with someone from youth justice service. Initially, we will speak about what happened and why. We will ask questions about your life including friends, school, lifestyle. This will help us to work out how we can provide some support to help you avoid this behaviour again.

You will need to attend appointments as asked to by the youth justice service.

- Be on time.
- Do not attend under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Let your youth justice worker know if you have changed number or address.
- Let us know if you need to change or cancel an appointment, we may need to ask for proof if you are unable to attend.

What if I don't?

The police will be told if young people do not agree to work with the youth justice service. The police will take this information into account and can use this as a reason to give a harsher consequence if you re-offend.

Your rights

If you are unhappy about how you have been treated by the youth justice service you can tell us by:

- speaking to your worker, or a duty worker;
- phoning the youth justice service manager;
- asking for information on how to make a complaint.

Isle of Wight Youth Justice Service

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www.iow.gov.uk/youthjusticeservice

If you have difficulty understanding this document, please contact us on 01983 823011 and we will do our best to help you.