

Your child has the right to translation and interpretation. This means that if the people who work in the court speak a language that your child does not understand, they have the right for a professional to help them understand what they are saying and translate important documents for them.

Professional assistance must also be provided if your child has difficulties seeing or speaking. For example, they can look for a person that speaks sign language or provide documents in braille.

## 2 THE RIGHT TO TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION

If there is something that they do not understand, they can ask:

- What crime they are being accused of.
- In what way it is believed they participated in the crime.
- What their rights are.
- How the criminal proceedings work.
- Who is going to participate in the criminal proceedings.

Your child has the right to be informed in a clear and simple way of:

## 1 THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

# KNOW THE RIGHTS OF YOUR CHILD!



If they are going to court



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LETTER OF RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN, EXPLAINED TO THEIR MOTHERS, FATHERS, OR LEGAL GUARDIANS

# KNOW THE RIGHTS OF YOUR CHILD!

If they are going to court



If the legal authorities suspect or believe that your child has committed a crime and begun criminal proceedings against them, your child has the **right to be given clear and detailed information on their rights.** You can help your child to understand them.

The following leaflet will explain these rights to you

## PROSECUTORS

They are public defenders. They act on behalf of citizens when a crime has been committed. Their job is to look for evidence of the crime and prove who has committed it.



## COURT AND TRIBUNAL

These are the places where conflicts are resolved.



## JUDGES OR MAGISTRATES



They are the people who work in the courts or tribunals, such as judges, magistrates, and prosecutors.

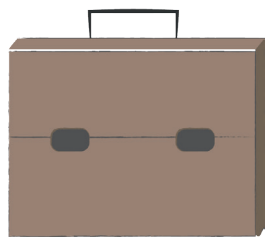


## WHO ARE THE LEGAL AUTHORITIES?

They are the people who decide on a judicial process. The State gives them power to judge, give sentences, and make sure they are completed.

## 3 THE RIGHT TO A LAWYER

Your child has the right to have a lawyer defend them. They can ask to see a lawyer they trust. If they do not have a lawyer and it is possible they could be detained as a sanction, they must be provided with one before the court. This service may be free.



This right also includes:

- They can speak to their lawyer to get advice before going to court and/or being interrogated by legal authorities.
- Their lawyer can accompany them whilst the legal authorities are interrogating them, and he/she can speak to defend them.
- Their lawyer can accompany them during certain investigations or evidence taking carried out by the police.
- All their conversations with their lawyer will be private.

## 4 THE RIGHT FOR THEIR MOTHER, FATHER, OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO BE INFORMED

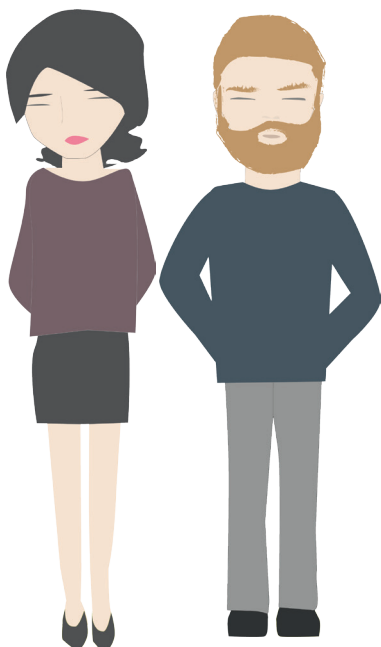
Your child has the right for the legal authorities to provide you with the same information as them. For example, you should be informed that they are suspected of having committed a crime, what their rights are, how the criminal proceedings work, who will be participating, the steps that are going to be taken, etc.

There are situations in which it is not in your child's best interests for you to be informed. In these cases, they can ask for another adult to be informed. Such adult needs to be accepted by the authority.

## 5 THE RIGHT TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR MOTHER, FATHER, OR LEGAL GUARDIAN DURING THE CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

Your child has the right for you to accompany them throughout the whole criminal proceedings. For example, when they have to speak to judges or prosecutors.

There are situations in which it is not in your child's best interests for you to accompany them. In these cases, they can ask for another adult to accompany them. Such adult needs to be accepted by the authority.



## 6 THE RIGHT TO AN INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENT

Your child has the right to have an individual assessment. Professionals who work in the court will ask them about their family, friendships, studies, etc.

This assessment is carried out in order for the legal authorities to know their individual needs and take measures that they believe are appropriate for your child's case.

Generally the assessment will take place at the beginning of the proceedings, before the court trial.

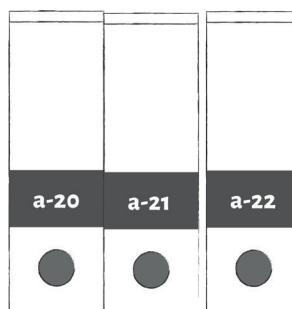
## 7 THE RIGHT TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE TRIAL



Your child has the right to attend and participate in the trial. This means that they can be present when the trial takes place and express their opinion.

If your child is not able to attend the trial, they have the right to ask for a new trial or to ask for another kind of judicial appeal, under certain conditions.

## 8 THE RIGHT TO ACCESS THE CASE MATERIALS



Your child has the right to access the documents related to their case. Their lawyer is also allowed to access these.



## 9 THE RIGHT TO THE PROTECTION OF THEIR PRIVACY

Your child has the right to have their private life protected throughout the process. The trial is usually held without public or the judge/court may decide to hold the trial in the absence of public.

The recordings of the interrogations will not be made public either. This means that only your child and the authorities can see and hear them.

## 10 THE RIGHT TO APPEAL

If your child believes that their rights are not being respected, they can appeal to the legal authorities and request that the decisions made are revised.