

Legal Advice

Young people who are alleged to have committed an offence are entitled to be informed of their right to obtain legal advice and to have the opportunity to obtain that advice.

Legal Aid Hotline for Under 18s

1800 10 18 10

Monday to Thursday
9am – Midnight

Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays
and Public Holidays
– 24 hours.

Aboriginal Legal Services

(02) 9621 1653 (Blacktown)
(02) 4474 2400 (Moruya)
(02) 4422 3255 (Nowra)
(02) 9318 2122 (Redfern)
(02) 4225 7977 (Wollongong)

Albury Wodonga Community Legal Service

(02) 6056 8210

Central Coast Community Legal Centre, Wyong

(02) 4353 4988

Elizabeth Evatt Community Legal Centre, Katoomba

(02) 4782 4155

Far West Community Legal Centre, Broken Hill

(08) 8088 2020
or 1800 300 036

Hawkesbury-Nepean Community Legal Centre, Richmond

(02) 4588 5618

Hunter Community Legal Centre, Newcastle

(02) 4926 3220 or
1800 650 073 (rural callers)

Illawarra Legal Centre, Warrawong

(02) 4276 2535

Inner City Legal Centre, Darlinghurst

(02) 9332 1966

Kingsford Legal Centre,

(02) 9385 9572

Macarthur Legal Centre, Campbelltown

(02) 4628 2042

Marrickville Legal Centre,

(02) 9559 2899

Mt Druitt Area Community Legal Centre, Rooty Hill

(02) 9675 2110

National Children's and Youth Law Centre

(02) 9385 9588

North and North West Community Legal Service, Armidale

(02) 6772 8100
or 1800 687 687

Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre, Lismore

(02) 6621 1000
or 1800 689 889

Shopfront Youth Legal Centre, Darlinghurst

(02) 9360 1847
or 0418 407 290

Western NSW Community Legal Centre, Dubbo

(02) 6884 9422
or 1800 655 927

LET'S WORK IN PARTNERSHIP TO
keep our mob out of custody

Warnings

THE YOUNG
OFFENDERS
ACT 1997

(CONSULT
THE ACT FOR
FURTHER
DETAILS)



NSW Police Force
www.police.nsw.gov.au
With your help, a safer community.

Warnings

Under the *Young Offenders Act 1997* a warning may be issued to a young person for minor offences (e.g swearing in public) where there has been no violence or other related matters.

A warning may be given on the run by a police officer.

Warnings can also be given whether or not the young person admits to committing the offence.

A young person is not entitled to a warning if:

- the offence involves violence;
- A police officer may be of the opinion that it should be dealt with by other means because it is not in the best interests of justice;

A young person cannot be excluded from a warning merely because the person has previously committed an offence.

Giving a warning

A police officer giving a warning must not attach conditions; or

Impose any additional sanctions to the young person, other than a move on direction.

A warning might be delivered in the following way:

“My name is ConstableI am from.....Local Area Command. You have been heard to be swearing in an offensive manner. I am warning you under the provisions of the Young Offenders Act for this matter. I am required to record your details (name, address and date of birth). A record of this warning will also be kept on the police computer system. However, it cannot be used as a record of criminal history.

Any further offending behaviour could result formal action being taken.

Do you understand?

Do you have any questions?

Police are required to keep a record of warnings given, containing details of the time of the offence, the place where the offence occurred, the nature of the offence, and the name and gender of the child.

A letter may be sent to the parent notifying them that a warning has occurred.