



Youth Justice NSW

Factsheet for a young person referred to a Youth Justice Conference

What is a Youth Justice Conference?

A Youth Justice Conference is a meeting between you and the people who have been directly affected by your offence.

Who organises the conference?

The Conference Convenor organises the conference. They will plan the conference date, time, place and who will be invited. They will also ask you which date and time suits you.

The Conference Convenor will meet with you before the conference to explain how it will work.

Who can attend?

- Your parent or carer
- Other family members
- An adult you choose to support you
- The victim
- The victim's family or a representative
- The police
- Your lawyer
- The Conference Convenor
- An interpreter or other support person

What happens at the conference?

The conference usually lasts up to two hours. You will be asked to talk about how and why you committed the offence.

The victim will talk about how the offence affected them. You and your support people will have time alone to talk about what you can do to make things right for the victim and to keep this from happening again.

Once you and the victim have agreed on what needs to happen, this will be written down in an outcome plan.

What are my rights?

- You have the right to choose to go to court instead.
- You have the right to have any adults attend to support you at the conference.
- You have the right to veto (say no) to any outcome plan task at the conference.
- You have the right to an interpreter.
- You have the right to have your legal representative attend the conference.
- You have the right to ask the Conference Convenor to consider including practices from your culture or invite a respected person from your community to the conference.

What if I change my mind?

You can choose to have your matter dealt with by the Court at any time.

What happens after the conference?

You will work on the tasks in your outcome plan until you have completed them all. A Youth Justice Caseworker will provide support and check on your progress with each task.

What if I don't finish the outcome plan?

Your case will be returned to the Police or the Court. If you have any problems completing the plan, ask Youth Justice for help.



WHERE CAN I GET LEGAL ADVICE?

Call the Legal Aid Hotline for free advice:

Phone: 1800 10 18 10

Weekdays (9am to midnight)

Friday to Sunday and Public Holidays: 24 hrs