

Attending Family Court



Dress Appropriately: While you don't need to wear formal business attire, it's important to dress smartly and respectfully. Business casual is appropriate.

Arrive Early: Aim to arrive at least 1 hour before your scheduled hearing to go through security and find the correct courtroom.

Security: when you arrive at court allow security staff to search your bags and scan you with the metal detectors. This is normal process for everyone.

Bring Necessary Documents: Ensure you have all relevant documents and evidence, as well as any identification you might need.

Be Polite and Respectful: Show respect to the judge, court staff, and other parties at all times.

Listen Carefully: Pay attention to what is being said and follow any instructions given by the judge or court staff. if you do not understand you must say.

Speak Clearly and Calmly: When it's your turn to speak, do so clearly and remain calm, even if the proceedings become stressful.

Turn Off Your Phone: Ensure your phone is turned off or on silent mode before entering the courtroom.

Be Honest: If you are unsure, do not know something or are confused, just say so.



Do Not Be Late: if there is an issue with your travel arrangement, you must contact the courts or your solicitor to let them know.

Interrupt: Do not interrupt the judge or other parties when they are speaking.

Display Anger or Frustration: Maintain your composure, even if you disagree with what is being said. if you do this you may be asked to leave. Threats towards any persons present are taken very seriously.

Use of Legal Jargon: Avoid using legal terms unless you fully understand them. Speak plainly and clearly.

Bring Unnecessary Items: Leave large bags, food, and drinks outside the courtroom unless absolutely necessary.

Hot Drinks and Glass Bottles: these are not allowed in the court room, so do not bring them.