

# Family Court and Privacy



**Attendance:** Only those directly involved in the case, such as the parties, their legal representatives, and certain professionals (e.g., social workers, guardians, expert witnesses), are allowed to attend. Professionals may be called to give evidence in person by the courts.



**Confidentiality:** The details of family cases are not usually made public to protect the privacy of the individuals involved, especially children. This is to ensure that sensitive information is not exposed and to protect the welfare of the child and family members.



**Reporting Restrictions:** Journalists are automatically allowed to attend family court proceedings. They only attend on very rare occasions and must meet strict reporting requirements. They cannot publish any information that could identify the children or parties involved without the court's permission.



**Judgements:** While some judgements in family cases may be published, they are typically anonymised to protect the identities of those involved. Victims and children's names should never be published. There are however some rare exceptions.



**Exceptions:** In certain cases, the court may decide to hold hearings in public if it is in the interests of justice, but this is rare. Similarly, some details may be made public if there is a significant public interest or to clarify points of law.