

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can I bring my phone with me?

Yes, you can bring your phone. However, you are not allowed to take any recordings, photos, or videos. It is also recommended that you keep your phone on silent or on Airplane Mode.

Can I bring food or drink with me?

Food is usually not allowed in the courtroom. You may be allowed to bring a bottle of water with you.

Outside the courtroom, you can have snacks and drinks. You may be waiting a while for your hearing, so you may want to bring some food with you during this time.

What do I do if I have additional needs with accessibility?

The courts have facilities for a range of needs. You can reach out and express any additional needs you may have to accessofficer@courts.ie. This can include wheelchair ramps, accessible toilets, and assistive hearing technologies, to name a few.

What do I do if English is not my first language?

Interpreters can be provided where needed. Sometimes, the Child and Family Agency (Tusla) will hire the interpreter. Other times, you will need to get in touch with the court office or your own legal counsel to arrange for this.

When should I arrive to court and when will my case be heard?

The arrival time for court is usually 10.30am. Your solicitor will meet you there. When you arrive, you will see a call list - this is a list of all of the cases being heard that day. The court will announce over an intercom speaker when it is your turn for your case to be heard.

Where do I go if I need help on the day of court?

The Courts Service have an on-site office at every courthouse, should you need help with anything on the day of your hearing.

Who can I contact if I need help preparing for court?

If you need help understanding the care order process or if you have any questions, you can call the Barnardos Parental Advocacy and Information Service freephone on 1800 333 355, or the Legal Aid Board's helpline on 0818 615 200. You can also get in touch via the email addresses below or find out more by scanning the QR codes.

To seek assistance understanding processes:



 parent.advocacy@barnardos.ie

 1800 333 355

To receive legal assistance:



 info@legalaidboard.ie

 0818 615 200