
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1998 No. 1504

The Criminal Justice (Children) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998

PART V

YOUTH COURTS

Youth courts

27.—(1) A juvenile court (that is to say, a court of summary jurisdiction constituted in accordance with Schedule 2 to the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968) sitting for the purpose of hearing any charge against a child or for the purpose of exercising any other jurisdiction conferred on youth courts by or under this Order or any other statutory provision, may be known as a youth court.

(2) Youth courts shall sit as often as may be necessary for the purpose of exercising any jurisdiction conferred on them.

(3) Directions given by the^{F1}Lord Chief Justice] under Article 11(3) of the Magistrates' Courts (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 shall make such provision as is necessary to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that, where a youth court is held on the same day and in the same place as a court of summary jurisdiction which is not a youth court, the times at which the courts are held shall be so arranged that children who are to be brought before the youth court will not be present in the precincts of the court at the same time as adult defendants.

(4) No person shall be present at any sitting of a youth court except—

- (a) members and officers of the court;
- (b) parties to the case before the court, their solicitors and counsel, and witnesses and other persons directly concerned in that case;
- (c) the parents or guardians of the child;
- (d) representatives of newspapers or news agencies;
- (e) such other persons as the court may authorise to be present.

F1 Words in art. 27(3) substituted (3.4.2006) by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\), ss. 15\(2\), 148, Sch. 5 para. 112; S.I. 2006/1014, art. 2\(a\), Sch. 1](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Criminal Justice (Children) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, Section 27.