

Children

Children's Hearing Court

Having a Support Person

Having a support person is a 'special measure' that can help some young witnesses to give their evidence.

A 'support person' is an adult who can sit with you when you are being asked question by the court. They are sometimes called 'supporters'.

They will sit with you but they cannot help you answer any of the questions.

If you are going to use a screen or a live TV link you can also ask the person who asked you to be a witness to have a supporter sit with you.

If you don't want to use a screen or a TV link, you may still want to have a supporter. You can ask if the court will let you have this.

You can help to choose someone to sit with you and be your supporter; maybe someone who has helped you, a teacher; or maybe a social worker. Perhaps you would like someone from your family to be with you. Have a think about this.

The children's reporter or the lawyer who asked you to be a witness will help you choose.

Always remember that your supporter cannot tell you what to say to the court and cannot answer any of the questions for you.

Being a witness is very important, the court can only make a decision with the help of information from witnesses like you.