



# If You Are Arrested

A guide to  
what happens  
in Custody.

- ✓ Photographs
- ✓ Plain English

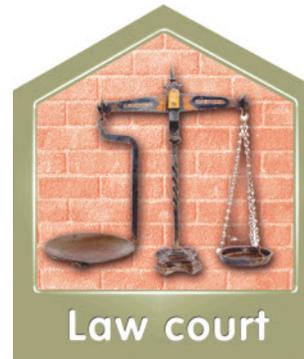


Written and designed by  
Clare Tarling, Dorset People First  
Photography by Dave Bendell  
Many thanks to

Weymouth Custody Suite and Southill Day Centre.

# What Next?

3. **Police Bail.** You will be able to leave custody. You will be given a form to return to the Police station. The police will be collecting more evidence about your case during this time.



4. **Court bail.** You will be released but will have to go to court another day. This means you have been charged with an offence. You will be given lots of paperwork which you should give to your solicitor.

5. **Very serious cases.** You may be charged and kept in the police station until you are taken to court. This is usually the next day.

**These things will be clearly explained to you by police staff. Your appropriate adult or your solicitor will be able to help you.**



# What Next?



One of these 5 things will happen next:

## 1. **No further action will be taken.**

This means you can go home. There is not enough evidence to continue with the case.

2. **Cautions.** If the offence is minor then you may be cautioned or reprimanded for the offence. This will be carefully explained to you and your appropriate adult.

# Arrest



If the police think you have committed a **crime**, you will be arrested.



You might have **handcuffs** put on your wrists.



You will be taken to the **Police Station** in a car or van.

## **Remember your rights!**

You do not have to say anything about the reason you were arrested.

# Arriving in Custody



You will be taken to a secure part of the police station. This is called '**Custody**'.



You may be asked to wait with a police officer in a '**holding cell**'.



Then you will be taken to the **desk**.

# Police Records



**Fingerprints**  
You will be asked to put your hand onto a machine.



**Photo**  
You will have your photo taken.



**DNA**  
The inside of your mouth will be gently brushed with a cotton bud.

# Interview



You can talk to a **solicitor** before your interview.

# At the Desk



You will be asked some **questions**.



At the interview, the police will ask **questions** and try to find out what happened.



You will have to give in your **belongings**. They will be kept safe and you will get them back when you leave.



If it lasts a long time, you can go back to your cell for a **drink and something to eat** if you need to.



You can ask the custody officers to **call someone** to tell them you have been arrested.

# Extra Help



You have the right to see a **solicitor**. You will not have to pay.



You can have an **appropriate adult** to help you. This could be a social worker, friend, family or carer who is over 18 years old.



The custody officers may decide that you should see the nurse.

Or you can ask to see the nurse if you want to.

# Your Cell



A **cell** is a small, locked room. You will be asked to take off your **belt and shoes** before you go in.



There is usually a **toilet** in the cell, and a **button** you can press to call for **help**.



You will be offered **food and drinks**.