



Student's Guide to Court Etiquette

Security Check

Whilst you are in the court complex you must comply with all directions of the security personnel. Persons and all items in your possession will be subject to examination by security personnel before entering the Law Courts Complex.

Phones

Before you enter the court building you must turn OFF (not just mute) your mobile phone, your teacher will check this is done.

Cases

Court Security will give you a list of cases you can visit. **The cases on this list are the only cases you can visit.** Please walk quietly between courtrooms and around the court complex. Be as quiet as possible when entering a courtroom. If a Judge is present when you enter the court give a small bow of the head and shoulders towards the bench in acknowledgement, then sit down in the back of the courtroom. If the judge enters or leaves the court while you are there, you will be asked to stand by the Bailiff. Once you have entered a courtroom remain viewing that case for at least 20 minutes before leaving, to minimise disruption to the proceedings. Please be considerate and not leave the court room during sensitive parts of the trial.

School Bags

Students should not bring large school bags to the court. There are no storage facilities for them and they cannot be left unattended, students should only bring **small** excursion type bags, handbags and folders, that they will carry with them during the visit. All bags will be checked by security when you arrive at the court. Items such as scissors, knives, laser torches, steel rulers, any sharp edged metal item must be handed to security upon entering. It is an offence to bring items that may be regarded dangerous into the Courts Complex.

DO NOT

The following activities are not permitted in the courtroom:

- ✘ Eating or drinking
- ✘ Reading magazines or newspapers
- ✘ Taking photos or making recordings
- ✘ Using personal music players and gaming consoles (CD, MP3, ipods or radios)
- ✘ Using mobile phones to talk, text or use the camera to make recordings
- ✘ Taking laptops into the courtroom, do not bring them on the visit

Be respectful of others also watching the case — remember that the victim or relatives of the accused may be in the courtroom

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