

HOW CAN A POLICE CAUTION BENEFIT YOUR CHILD ?

- Your child will not get a criminal record.
- A caution will help divert your child from entering the justice system.
- Follow -up programs will help keep your child from committing more serious offences.
- You can ask the police to help you access programs and services.

LOCAL YOUTH SERVICES



Victorian Aboriginal
Legal Service

KOORI YOUTH AND POLICE CAUTIONING

For police cautions to be given

- a youth must talk to the police about the crime he or she has committed
- parents or guardians should be present with their child for the caution

REMEMBER

A police caution means no criminal record will be made against you, although the police will note your caution



Only talk about the offence you are being accused of OR make a No Comment Interview

You can seek legal advice before speaking with Police, a Legal Advisor can tell you whether or not you can receive a caution.

IF you decide to speak with police **ONLY** talk about the offence that you are being accused of

OR

You can make a **NO COMMENT** interview.

In a **NO COMMENT** interview you must say your name, date of birth and address, and answer 'No comment' to all other questions.

REMEMBER

Always stay cool and be polite when dealing with police

WHAT HAPPENS IN A CAUTION?

The police will sit down with you and your family and explain what you did wrong.

They will explain what will happen if you commit the same offence again.

You will receive a piece of paper as record of the caution.

Police will keep a record of your caution.

REMEMBER

It's not smart to offend again after getting a caution—

You will lose big time as you may not be eligible for a caution and instead be charged. A caution is in effect a warning.

HOW CAN A PARENT HELP?

- Stay cool at the police station even if you are upset with your child.
- Being at the caution shows your support for your child.
- Your presence can comfort your child.
- The caution can now take place in surroundings where the family feels more comfortable.
- If parents are unable to attend the police cautioning then extended family members or a respected person from the community can attend instead.

REMEMBER

By being a supportive parent your child will have a better chance of having a crime free future

