

There are ways that victims can take part in children's diversion programmes. With your consent, the Youth Justice Victim Liaison will contact you to discuss how the child's behaviour has affected you.

You will also be given the opportunity to have your say in the child's plan and what they can do to make amends. They will share this with the practitioner supporting the child to help them better understand the impact of their actions. The Victim Liaison Officer will then keep you up to date on the progress of the child.

To access further support, advice and guidance you can visit:

www.gov.uk/guidance/victim-and-witness-services

www.victimsupport.org.uk

www.affectedbycrime.com



If you require this leaflet translated into another language, or in a different format, for example in large print, please contact the Youth Justice Service on the details below:

Telephone: 01472 325252

Email: YOSAdmin@nelincs.gov.uk



Humberside Police
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NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL
www.nelincs.gov.uk

Working in Partnership

YJS Youth Justice Service

North East Lincolnshire

DIVERSION

Out of Court Outcomes for Children and Young People

Understanding Out of Court Programmes for Children involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.

Diversion is another word for diverting children from the Criminal Justice System and Court.

What is Diversion?

When a child is arrested or investigated for a crime, the police have numerous options to choose from when deciding on the most suitable outcome. Most children who have not been in trouble before, or very little involvement with the police, are suitable to be dealt with out of court.



By dealing with children out of court, the process is much quicker and allows children to understand the consequences of their actions, repair harm, and avoid negative labels associated with court and convictions.

Convictions for children can significantly impact on their ability to access opportunities within the community that would support them in living a pro-social life.

Research shows that children who enter the court arena and receive convictions are much more likely to re-offend.



Diversion allows us to support the child and their whole family with multiple areas including their behaviour, education, health and well-being, and through positive activities. It allows us to explore what caused the behaviour in the first place and how we can make this better to make everyone safe.

Diversion can also cover victim and restorative work, where children can take part in projects to benefit the community and make amends to their victims, in the form of letters of explanation or meeting victims face to face.