

This leaflet was developed in partnership with the Wirral Custody Suite: Merseyside Police Force and the staff within the Learning Disability Service.

The leaflet has been adapted from originals developed by the Manchester Learning Disability Partnership 2006 and the Cheshire Police Force 2008.

Service users who have experienced going to the police station were also consulted on the content of this leaflet.



Going to the Police Station in Wirral

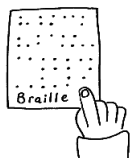
Information for people with learning disabilities who have been arrested by the police



If the police think you have broken the law you will have to go to the police station

Ask someone to help you with the information in this booklet.

This leaflet is available in other languages or formats



For more information see www.cwp.nhs.uk.

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Sometimes people break the law.

This is also called committing a crime.

Some examples are



Carrying a knife



Hurting someone



Touching someone in a bad way

Breaking other people's things on purpose.



If someone thinks you have broken the law the police will want to talk to you.

The police will finish asking you questions and tell you what will happen next.



You may have to stay at the police station.

The police will tell you why.

You will get food and drinks while you wait at the police station.



You may be able to go home.



You may have to go to court.

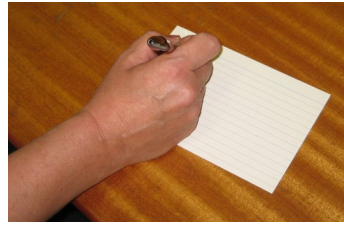
You will get more information about going to court.

If you want more information about this leaflet or going to the police station you can telephone



- The police
- Your community nurse
- Your solicitor
- Your social worker

The police will also write down what you say.



The police will ask you lots of questions.

You do not have to answer the questions.

The police or solicitor will explain why.



Your appropriate adult can support you when the police are asking you questions.

Tell the police if you do not understand what they are saying to you.



Tell the police if you feel scared or if you need a break.

Your appropriate adult is there to help you to tell the police when you do not understand or feel scared.

The police may tell you that they are arresting you.



The police may put some handcuffs on your wrists.

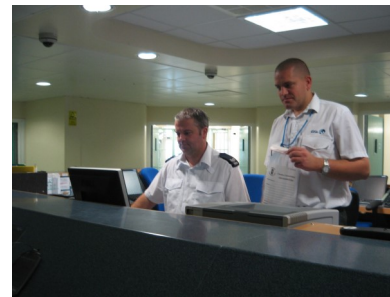
The police may take you to the police station.

You will go to the police station in a police car or van.



You can take a carer, a friend or someone you trust with you. The police can contact them for you.

The police will take you to the custody desk at the police station.



This is a custody desk.

The police will ask you some questions.

If you have any valuables the police will take them to look after for you.

Money



Watch and jewellery

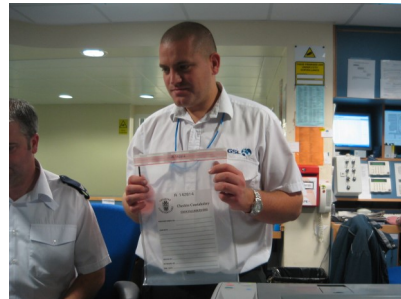


Mobile phone



The police will put your valuables in a plastic bag.

The police will give you your valuables back when you leave.



Sometimes the police need to keep things as evidence.

The police will tell you if they need to keep your valuables as evidence.

When it is time to talk the police will take you to a special room.



This room is called the interview room.

The police will ask you questions.

You can have somebody with you when the police are asking you questions.



You must have an appropriate adult with you .

This is someone who can help you to understand what they police are saying to you.

The police will arrange this for you.

This could be your helper, family member or a social worker.



The police will record what you say on a tape.

The police will ask you to sign a form to say that you understand why they need to record on a tape.



You will wait in a cell.

The cell will look like this.



The cell will have a toilet.

The door will be locked.



The police will keep the key.



There is a button in the cell to press if you need help.

You will get food and drinks.

The food will come in a box like this.



If you are wearing any of these things the police will take them off you.

Shoelaces

The police may ask you to take your shoes off.



Tie



Belt

Drawstrings in your clothes.



The police may ask you to take off your jacket or top.

The police will give them back to you when you leave.



The police may ask you to wear a gown if they need to take your clothes.

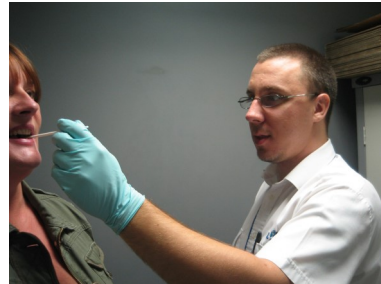
The police will take your photograph.



The police will take your fingerprints.



The police will take some samples from your mouth.



They will use a sample stick like this.



The police will test your breath if they think you have been drinking alcohol and driving.

They will ask you to blow into a machine like this.



You can make a phone call.

Or you can ask the police to phone someone for you.

You can phone someone who can help you. This could be a solicitor.

The police can contact a solicitor for you.



This will not cost you any money.

A solicitor is a person who can help you with legal information.

A solicitor is a person who can help you with legal information.



If the police are worried about your health they will ask you to see the nurse at the police station.

The nurse will do some tests.

The nurse might also need to take some medical samples as evidence.

