

YOUTH COURT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA PRACTICE DIRECTION 1 OF 2023
CARERS PROCESSES

I, Penelope Eldridge, Judge of the Youth Court of South Australia pursuant to Rule 341.2 of the *Uniform Special Statutory Rules 2022* issue this practice direction in relation to the right of foster and kinship carers (Carers) to make a submission or representation to the Youth Court.

1. Carers right to be heard in the Youth Court.

- 1.1 The *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017* (the *Act*) acknowledges the right of Carers to make a submission or representation to the Youth Court.
- 1.2 Carers play an important role in the lives of children and young people and the Youth Court recognises the significance of the voice of Carers in proceedings under the *Act*.

2. Procedure to be followed by Carers wishing to make a submission or representation to the Youth Court

- 2.1 Carers wishing to make a submission or representation to the Court prior to trial can either appear in person or alternatively provide a written submission or representation to the Court.
- 2.2 If appearing in person, it is appropriate that the Carer contact the Youth Court Registry by email or telephone, preferably at least two (2) business days before the hearing, to advise of their proposed appearance.
- 2.3 In the case of the Carer making a written submission or representation, this should be emailed to the Registry at least two (2) business days prior to the hearing. The submission or representation will be filed prior to the hearing for perusal by the presiding judicial officer.

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- 2.4 It is also open to the Carer to express their views to the Department for Child Protection and request that the Department inform the Court of their views.
- 2.5 If the Carer wishes to make a submission or representation to the Court at trial, the Court requires a written application to be filed in accordance with Form CP5.
- 2.6 Once the Carer has provided their submission or representation to the Court, a copy will be provided by the Court to the other parties to the proceedings.

This practice direction will come into operation on 19 April 2023.

DATED 18 April 2023.



Penelope Eldridge
Judge of the Youth Court