

Who are Slough's YJS?

Slough's Youth Justice Service (YJS) are part of Slough Children First.

Our vision is for children and young people in Slough to be Happy, Safe & Loved, Thriving.

The service is a multi-agency team that brings together the experience of police, social care, probation, education and health, in order to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people and to help improve their wellbeing and way of thinking.

Contact us

YJS@sloughchildrenfirst.co.uk

01753 522 702

Slough YJS
Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road
Slough
Berkshire
SL1 2EL

Slough Youth Justice Service

About Referral Orders



What is a Referral Order?

A Referral Order is a type of sentence given by a court.

They are used for the majority of children aged 10–17 appearing before the court for the first time. They can help avoid further offending, help right some of the harm that has been done and can help your family and friends support you to stop offending.

How long is a Referral Order?

A Referral Order can last between 3 and 12 months, depending on the seriousness of the offence.

What happens next?

After you leave court, a member of Slough's Youth Justice Service (YJS) will meet with you to discuss how we can help.

Your caseworker will prepare a report to decide what type of programme they think would be best for you. They will discuss this with you and your family in a Referral Order Panel (the panel), where you will sign a contract.

About the panel

The panel will include staff from Slough YJS, specially trained volunteer community panel members and your parent(s) or carer(s). Sometimes the victim(s) of your offence may attend.

What will the panel do?

The panel will:

- Discuss what happened
- Discuss the impact on those affected and the community
- Discuss your circumstances (such as family life, education, health)
- Hear how the victim(s) of your offence feels about it
- Help you to repair the harm that has been done
- Help you to make positive changes and stop offending
- Help your family and friends support you to stop offending.

What will be in my contract?

Reparations – this is an opportunity to do something positive and could involve writing a letter of apology to those you have harmed and doing something in the community, such as hands-on gardening work or volunteering at a charity.

Sessions with the YJS – You will need to attend Referral Order Panel meetings when required and see your YJS caseworker when required. If you cannot attend an appointment with your caseworker or other YJS staff, you will need to get in touch with us and let us know why. You will also need to let us know if you change your address.

Your Referral Order starts on the date you sign your contract, not the date you appeared in court.

What if I do really well with my Referral Order?

If you do well and have done everything in your contract, your YJS caseworker may take your case back to court and ask the judge if you can finish your Referral Order early.

A vision for you to be Happy, Safe & Loved, Thriving!