

## Has your child been removed?

Welfare authorities can remove your child to protect them from harm.



The Department for Child Protection may:

- put them in another person's care, and
- ask the Court what should happen

within **5** working days.



The Department for Child Protection may make an appointment for you to see a doctor or a counsellor, or for you to attend drug testing. This is to find out if you are able to care for your child.



You must attend these appointments. If you don't attend, you may face a gaol penalty.

Co-operating with the Department can help show that you want to get your child back.



You should get advice from a lawyer about what you can do, and about what may happen if it goes to Court.



You can apply for legal aid to pay for a lawyer.

It is very important to apply for legal aid as soon as you can.



Fill out a legal aid application form.

A lawyer can help you to fill in the form.



Call the Legal Helpline on **1300 366 424** for free and confidential legal advice.

Make an appointment to see a lawyer. Don't wait. You need to do this <u>now</u>.