Chris Patterson MP
Member for Camden

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HELPING KIDS UNDERSTAND THE LAW

Member for Camden Chris Patterson MP has today welcomed the launch of a re-vamped website that helps children and young people to navigate complicated legal issues.

Issues such as parental break ups, family violence, criminal issues and property settlements are all issues that can affect children and young people.

Mr Patterson said the justice system needs to be easily understood and available for everyone.

“Helping young people understand the legal issues impacting their life can help reduce any stress or anxiety they are feeling at difficult times,” Mr Patterson said.

The Best for Kids website, developed by Legal Aid NSW, has legal information and resources for young people and families on a wide range of legal issues which can impact their lives including family law, care and protection, family violence, criminal law, consumer credit and debt.

The website includes answers to questions about what happens when parents separate, what is an AVO, what happens at court and the role of an independent children’s lawyer, what happens when children are removed from their parents’ care, how to deal with debt and money issues and what young people should do if approached by the police.

The website also features videos for parents including on family violence, mediation and property settlements.

Legal Aid NSW Chief Executive Bill Grant thanked police, the courts and the child actors for their role in developing and producing the videos.

“They have helped make this a fantastic resource, designed to be easily accessible from mobile phones,” Mr Grant said.

“Videos and online animated brochures also explain what children’s lawyers do for a child or young person. These lawyers are usually appointed by the Court to represent a child’s interests in family law cases and care proceedings.”

For more information, go to www.bestforkids.org.au

Media: 02 4655 3333