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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1998 No. 1504**

**The Criminal Justice (Children) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998**

**PART II**

**GENERAL**

**Age of responsibility**

3. It shall be conclusively presumed that no child under the age of 10 can be guilty of an offence.

**Child's welfare**

4. In any proceedings for an offence, the court shall have regard to—
- (a) the welfare of any child brought before it; and
  - (b) the general principle that any delay in dealing with a child is likely to prejudice his welfare.

**Words not to be used in relation to children dealt with summarily**

5.—(1) The words “conviction” and “sentence” shall not be used in relation to children dealt with summarily.

(2) Any reference in any statutory provision (whenever passed or made) to a person convicted, a conviction or a sentence shall in the case of a child be construed as including a reference to a child found guilty of an offence, a finding of guilt or an order made upon such finding, as the case may be.