The decision in Mullin v Richards\(^1\) followed the Australian case of McHale v Watson\(^2\) and confirmed in English law the test of the standard of care required of child defendants.\(^3\)

\(^1\)Mullin v Richards [1998] 1 WLR 1304 (CA).
\(^2\)McHale v Watson (1966) 115 CLR 199.
\(^3\)D Wenham, ‘Negligent Children’ [1998] (4) Web JCLI.

### Case Law

If the case is **pre-2001**, no neutral citation is needed — remember to add the court the case was heard in parenthesis at the end as below.

- *Donoghue v Stevenson* [1932] AC 562 (HL).

All case law citations **post-2001 onwards** should have a neutral citation with them as shown in the below example, followed by the best* law report citation if one is available.


### Legislation


If the Act is cited in full in the text of your work, then you do not need to add a footnote for it.

### Journals


If no volume number is stated, then use square brackets [xxxx] for the year.

### OSCOLA CITATION STYLE

Have you checked your abbreviations, punctuation, and neutral citations?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where To Find Case Law Reports</th>
<th>Abbreviations for Parts of Statutes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Law Reports [Westlaw UK &amp; LexisLibrary]</td>
<td>part/parts pt/pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Law Reports Westlaw UK</td>
<td>section/sections s/ss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All England Law Reports LexisLibrary</td>
<td>subsection/subsections sub-s/sub-ss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>paragraph/paragraphs para/paras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>subparagraph/subparagraphs subpara/subparas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>schedule/schedules sch/schs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Law Report Series Abbreviations**

- (QB) Queen’s Bench
- (Ch) Chancery
- (Fam) Family
- (AC) Appeals Court

**Neutral Citation Court Abbreviations**

- Supreme Court UKSC
- House of Lords UKHL
- Privy Council UKPC
- Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) EWCA Crim
- Court of Appeal (Civil Division) EWCA Civ
- Family Court EWFC
- Court of Protection EWCOP
- High Court (Administrative Court) EWHC (Admin)
- Chancery Division EWHC (Ch)
- Patents Court EWHC (Pat)
- Queen’s Bench Division EWHC (QB)
- Commercial Court EWHC (Comm)
- Admiralty Court EWHC (Admity)
- Technology and Construction Court EWHC (TCC)
- Family Division EWHC (Fam)

**Years & Punctuation**

[xxxx] square brackets indicate the exact year the case was reported.

[(xxxx)] round brackets indicate the date of the judgement, so to locate the case use the volume number.

- In general, OSCOLA uses very little punctuation.
- There are no full stops after abbreviations.
- Footnotes should always be closed with a full stop.

### Neutral Citation Court Abbreviations

**Recognised order of authority in case reporting:**

1. “The” Law Reports: Text is approved by the judge hearing the case before publication—for abbreviations see chart to the upper left.
2. Weekly Law Reports: (WLR)
3. All England Law Reports: (All ER)
4. Specialist Law Reports: see the Cardiff Index legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk

**UK Case Names in Citations—Common Rules**

- Multiple parties? Name only 1st claimant & 1st defendant
- Party is an individual: do not use forenames or first initials.
- If using the full party names in the text of your work, you may omit these from the footnote.

**Pinpointing Citations**

To refer to a specific page in a case report, place the page number, and name of the judge if relevant, at the end of the citation:

1. *Donoghue v Stevenson* [1932] AC 562 (HL) 580 (Lord Atkin).