

Ch 14: Hearsay admissible at common law

Evidence of age

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A person's age may be proved by hearsay statements admissible by statute: see the Civil Evidence Act 1995, s 1 (civil proceedings); the Criminal Justice Act 2003, s 114 (criminal proceedings).

It may also be proved by declarations as to pedigree; and by inference from appearance. As to the latter, see The Children and Young Persons Act 1933, s 99 and the Criminal Justice Act 1948, s 80(3). However, physical appearance and demeanour provide only a fragile basis for assessing age: *R (AB) v Kent County Council* [2020] EWHC 109 (Admin). See also Home Office Guidance, *Assessing Age*, 23rd May, 2019.