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## Son of Jehovah's Witnesses will undergo blood transfusion, judge rules



Court ruling: the son of two devout Jehovah's Witnesses is to be given a blood transfusion (Picture: Rex)

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STANDARD REPORTER

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The son of two devout Jehovah's Witnesses is to be given a blood transfusion despite religious objections from his family, a High Court has ruled.

Mr Justice Moylan was told the young boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, suffered severe burns in accident and might need a blood transfusion.

The judge said a transfusion would be in the boy's best interests, despite the views of his mother and father.

Detail of the decision has emerged in a written ruling by the judge following a hearing in the Family Division of the High Court in London.

The judge said a health trust with responsibility for treating the boy had asked for a ruling.

He did not name anyone involved and did not give the child's age.

Mr Justice Moylan said he hoped that the boy's parents would understand.

"I am extremely grateful to [the boy's] father for so clearly and calmly explaining to me the position held by himself and [the boy's] mother," said the judge.

"I have no doubt at all that they love their son dearly. I also have no doubt that they object to the receipt by [their son] of a blood transfusion because of their devout beliefs. I hope they will understand why I have reached the decision which I have, governed as it is by [their son's] welfare."

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