

Separated Parents Statement

The school is committed to supporting the welfare and education of all pupils whilst remaining impartial in matters relating to parental relationships and family disputes.

The school will not become involved in disagreements or disputes between separated parents. Parents are expected to communicate effectively and cooperate with one another regarding matters affecting their child's education, welfare, attendance, and any arrangements that may impact upon the school.

Where both parents have parental responsibility, it is their responsibility to ensure that relevant information is communicated between them. The school cannot act as an intermediary or facilitate communication between parents.

Parents are expected to resolve any disagreements regarding requests for leave of absence before submitting an application to the school. The school will not mediate between parents. The school will not check that this has happened.

The school will not routinely require a joint request for leave of absence. However, where the school has been provided with a court order requiring the consent of both parents before leave of absence can be authorised, the school will require written agreement from both parents before the request can be considered.

Parents are responsible for providing the school with copies of any court orders that affect parental responsibility, contact arrangements, or the collection of a child. The school can only act upon legal documentation that has been provided in writing.

Unless the school has been provided with a court order restricting a parent's right to collect their child, either parent with parental responsibility may collect their child in accordance with the school's collection procedures. The school cannot refuse collection by a parent with parental responsibility unless it is legally required to do so or there are safeguarding concerns that require immediate action.

In all circumstances, the school will act in accordance with its statutory duties relating to parental responsibility, attendance, safeguarding, data protection, and the welfare of the child. Decisions will always be made in the best interests of the pupil and in accordance with relevant legislation, Department for Education guidance, and any applicable court orders.