

SEPARATED PARENTS STATEMENT

<i>Date of Review</i>		<i>Date of Next Review</i>
<i>Spring 2014</i>	<i>Drafted and agreed by the Children, Families & Community Committee</i>	<i>Spring 2015</i>

The Education Act 1996 defines a parent as:

- a) All natural parents, including those that are not married;
- b) Any person who has parental responsibility but is not a natural parent e.g. a legally appointed guardian or the Local Authority named in a care order
- c) Any person who has care of a child i.e a person with whom the child resides and who looks after the children irrespective of the relationship

Within Hampton Primary Partnership schools we ensure that:

- All situations are dealt with sympathetically
- All situations are dealt with in support of the child / children first
- Schools adhere to any court orders about which we have been notified
- Upon admission to HPP birth certificates will be seen as standard procedure and names on admission form checked to match birth certificate

In the absence of a court order:

- Schools make all information accessible to both parents e.g school reports
- Schools will inform both parents that the school websites are the first port of call for any information regarding the schools, e.g. dates
- No parent is excluded from involvement in their child's education at the request of the other parent

Within HPP schools parents should ensure that:

- The schools are provided with up to date information e.g changes of telephone numbers
- The schools are aware of any changes to court orders in place
- Agreed collection arrangements from school

HPP schools will:

- Seek advice wherever necessary from outside agencies e.g Local Authority Legal Services and services relating to child protection and safeguarding
- Not resolve disagreements between parents or act as intermediaries
- Seek to clarify any issues regarding collection from school to the best of its ability. Both parents will be contacted in the first instance to reach a resolution. If this is not possible the headteacher / member of staff acting on behalf of the headteacher retains the right to keep the child in school until an action can be agreed through outside agencies e.g. through the Local Authority or Police
- Contact the police immediately if a parent is disruptive or abusive or if there is a belief that a possible abduction of the child might occur