



Queen Victoria School Parental Responsibilities Policy

This policy applies to the families of all pupils enrolled at QVS.

Parental responsibilities and parental rights

The parents named on a pupil's birth certificate will be assumed to have full parental responsibilities and parental rights (PRRs) in respect of the pupil where:

- (a) the parents of the pupil are/were married to each other, and/or
- (b) the pupil's birth was registered on or after 4 May 2006

If the pupil's father was registered on their birth certificate prior to 4 May 2006, and their parents were never married, the father of that pupil will be assumed not to have PRRs. A Court Order, or a Section 4 Agreement which has been registered in the Books of Council & Session, will require to be produced to QVS in order to confirm that PRRs have been conferred upon the pupil's father. A father who is not named on the pupil's birth certificate will be assumed not to have PRRs in respect of the pupil unless a Court Order confirming that PRRs have been awarded to him by the Court, or a registered Section 4 Agreement, is provided to QVS.

Unless there is a Court Order produced to QVS which provides otherwise, QVS will not prevent a parent with PRRs from making contact with their child, collecting their child from QVS or taking their child out of QVS. In the event of a dispute about collection or contact with a child, parents are recommended to take their own independent legal advice. Where a decision requires to be taken by QVS as a matter of urgency, we will act in accordance with what we consider to be in the pupil's best interests and taking into account the feelings and wishes of the pupil in question. Where parents have agreed between themselves arrangements which depart from the terms of a Court Order, the arrangements must be confirmed to QVS in writing.

There may be other persons who are involved in a pupil's care and upbringing who have acquired PRRs in respect of the pupil. QVS require a copy of the Court Order confirming that PRRs have been granted to that person.

Court Orders

QVS requires that copies of any Court Orders regarding the care arrangements for a pupil or any issue arising in relation to PRRs be provided to QVS on the pupil's enrolment at QVS or at the earliest opportunity following the making of any such Order.

QVS will act in accordance with a Court Order (or a Compulsory Supervision Order imposed by the Children's Hearing System) in relation to a pupil where a copy of the Order has been provided to QVS.

Residence and Contact

A pupil may live principally with one parent and have contact with the other parent at certain times. This does not mean that the resident parent legally has greater PRRs than the non-resident parent. In the absence of any Court Order produced to QVS which restricts or extinguishes the PRRs of a parent, QVS will proceed on the basis that each parent has equal PRRs in respect of the pupil.

Adults in a parental role

A pupil may live in family with an adult who is not a parent of the child (such as a stepparent who is married to the pupil's parent). Unless there is a Court Order providing otherwise, such an adult does not have PRRs in relation to the pupil. A parent with PRRs may authorise such an adult to collect the pupil from school but that arrangement must be confirmed in writing with QVS by a parent with PRRs in advance.

Pupil's name

QVS will use the pupil's surname as stated on their birth certificate. A request by a parent for a pupil to be referred to by a different surname(s) will require to be made in writing and with the signed agreement of the other parent with PRRs, or on the production of a Court Order.

Reporting Requirements

In the event of a dispute between parents, or others caring for a pupil, QVS may be required (on the advice of Education Scotland) to notify the following bodies of said dispute:

- The Care Inspectorate;
- HM Inspectorate;
- The Registrar of independent Schools.

The above is QVS policy from 21 August 2016.

This policy will be reviewed in June 2019, or earlier if necessary.

I hereby accept the terms of the QVS policy on Parental Responsibilities consisting of this and the preceding page, confirmed by my signature hereto:

Signed.....

Full name.....

Relationship to pupil.....

Date.....