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Parental Responsibility (PR)

This applies only to children born in Jersey,

What is Parental Responsibility (PR)?

Parental responsibility is about making decisions which affect a child's welfare.

A person with parental responsibility for a child will have certain rights, powers and authority, duties and responsibilities.

What does Parental Responsibility include?

- where the child should live
- the child's education
- applying for a passport
- significant movement of the child such as:
 - leaving the country for a holiday
 - leaving the jurisdiction (emigrating)
- the child's name (including changes to name by Deed Poll)
- protecting the child
- the child's religious upbringing
- consent to the child's medical treatment
- consent to freeing the child for adoption
- looking after the child's property (eg inheritance)
- the child's burial or cremation

Who has Parental Responsibility for a child?

The mother of the child will automatically have parental responsibility for her child.

If the father was married to the mother of the child at the time of the child's birth and registered as the father on the birth certificate, he will also have parental responsibility for his child.

Someone else can have parental responsibility for a child if either:

- a custody order or a residence order has been made in their favour
- they have responsibility for the child under an emergency protection order
- they are a guardian of the child
- they have adopted the child

Do unmarried Fathers have Parental Responsibility?

(If your child was born before 2 December 2016)

For births registered before 2 December 2016, an unmarried father will **not** have automatically parental responsibility for his child even if he is registered on the birth certificate. In order to acquire parental responsibility, an unmarried father must enter into a parental responsibility agreement with the child's mother or apply to the court for a parental responsibility order.

(If your child was born on or after 2 December 2016)

If the father of the child is not married to the mother at the time of the child's birth but is registered on the birth certificate, the father will automatically have parental responsibility for his child.

If the unmarried father is not registered as the child's father at the time of the child's birth, the father will only have parental responsibility for his child by:

- applying to the court for an order stating that he has parental responsibility for his child
- entering into a parental responsibility agreement with the child's mother
- requesting that the registrar of the parish in which the child was born, re-registers the child's birth and enters the father's name. This option will involve the cooperation of the child's mother in making the request to the registrar

(If either of the above applies please provide the school with these documents to view)

Birth Certificate.

It is a requirement that we view a copy of your child's birth certificate for us to determine who legally has PR, therefore please bring your child's birth certificate along to the school office for us to view before your child starts school with us-
Thank you.