



Our children leave Mile Oak thinking big with no limit on their potential. The school family works together to inspire and support every child. They learn and achieve through inspirational teaching in a lively, ambitious environment. Every child is nurtured to gain the creativity, responsibility and full breadth of skills required to take an active and fulfilling role in society.

Mile Oak Primary School:

Separated Parents Policy

Date	September 2024
Review Date	September 2025

Separated Parents Policy

Purpose

This policy provides guidance to school staff to ensure parents have the necessary information and guidance to fully support their child throughout their time at Mile Oak Primary School.

The definition of a parent for school purposes is much wider than for any other situation. The Education Act 1996 defines a parent as:

- all natural parents, including those that are not married;
- 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; or
- any person who has care of a child i.e. a person with whom the child resides and who looks after the child irrespective of the relationship.

It is the responsibility of each parent to ensure that they have access to SchoolPing in order to receive communications. Support with this can be provided by the school office.

Each person with parental responsibility for a child is entitled to:

- Receive information about their child.
- Request to see their child's educational record.
- Access progress reports and review their child's records.
- Participate in statutory activities (like parent governor elections).
- Be informed about meetings involving their child (such as parents' evenings or an exclusion hearing).
- Be asked to give consent (for things like school trips or sharing photos of the child on your school's website).
- Collect their child from school (unless there is a court order in place).

Please note that this means that one parent cannot prevent others with parental responsibility from doing any of the things listed above.

Information Sharing

- All letters will be sent to all parents.
- Consent will be accepted from any parent.
- We seek consent from the resident parent(s) for activities and educational visits.
- A copy of the Annual School Report will be sent to all parents with PR (whose contact details we hold).
- Termly progress reports will be provided to both parents where contact details have been provided to school. This also includes information relating to attendance and exclusions, unless outside agency advice has been sought and it is felt that it would be detrimental to the child to communicate this information to the parent the child no longer resides with.

Parents' Evening

Parents' evening invites are open to all parents. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we expect parents/carers to attend parents' evening together. Where it is established that this is not possible, suitable arrangements for a second update will be made.

Disputes and Disagreements

Disagreements between parents must be resolved between the parents and cannot be resolved by the school.

Where, in the reasonable opinion of the school, the issue requiring parental consent is likely to have a long term and significant impact on the child, the school may require the consent of all those with parental responsibility for the child (where they are known to the school). An example of the circumstances where joint consent is likely to be required includes the decision to withdraw a child from sex education or religious education within the school curriculum. The school will maintain an open-door policy with all parents/carers and will be available to discuss any issues.

Domestic Abuse

Where an allegation of domestic abuse is known to the school, we will ensure that we support parents appropriately to be active participants in their children's school experience.