



TO BE UPLOADED ONTO LIQUID LOGIC - CARE STORE – IN  
LAC FOLDER

## GUIDANCE

### DELEGATED AUTHORITY - DECISION SUPPORT TOOL – SECTION 20

**This *Decision Support Tool* is to assist social workers, parents, foster carers and young people to talk to each other about delegated authority. It can help to prepare for the initial Placement Planning meeting and each subsequent review when the Placement Plan is considered. It is an aide to good practice in working with delegated authority. It does not replace or replicate the Placement Plan which is the legal requirement for this purpose. The required content of the Placement Plan is set out in Schedule 2 of the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations 2010; relevant statutory guidance is in Chapter 2 of the Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations Volume 2: Care Planning, Placement and Case Review.**

The Decision Support Tool is supported and explained further in the Fostering Network's Handbook *Supporting Placement Planning*. It is based on consultations which suggest that the areas covered are those where it is particularly important to have clarity. The aims are to ensure that the Placement Plan:

- Is viewed as a living document that can change over time.
- Covers all the areas necessary for every child.
- Is as clear and inclusive of parents and foster carers as possible.

The *Decision Support Tool* is not a definitive list of tasks and responsibilities: over the life of a child's placement with foster carers, other areas will inevitably arise and require clarification and not all of the elements that are included will apply to every young person. In addition to preparing for planning meetings and reviews, its other uses are:

- To assist supervising social workers to prepare fostering applicants for the tasks in foster care and to assess their needs in relation to the *Training, Support and Development Standards for Foster Care*.
- For children's social workers to use with parents who need additional support to understand delegated authority.

Clarifying who is best placed to take everyday decisions depends on many factors: the young person's age, views, legal status and care plan, the parents' views and the experience and the views of the foster carers. Collaboration and consultation are essential for successful partnership working.



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**CHILD / YOUNG PERSON’S NAME:**

**CHILD / YOUNG PERSON ACCOMMODATED VIA SECTION 20 OF THE CHILDREN ACT 1989:**

**1. Medical and Health**

<b>Consent / agreement / task</b>	<b>Who has authority to give consent / agreement or undertake the task<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Notes (including notifications, prior consultation/recording requirement/conditions) PR – Parental Responsibility</b>  <b>Where there is more than one person who can provide consent in respect of parents and foster-carers, please discuss with both parties who this can be and add agreements into this document.</b>	<b>Date:</b>
1.1 Signed consent for an Initial Health Assessment	Parent with PR		
1.2 Signed consent to emergency medical treatment including anaesthesia	Parent with PR		
1.3 Consent – immunisations	Parent with PR/		
1.4 Planned medical procedures	Parent with PR		
1.5 Medical consent letter for use by the	Parent with PR		

<sup>1</sup> More than one person could have authority to give a particular consent/agreement or undertake a particular task, e.g. both the parent and foster carer may be attending parents’ evenings. If this is the case, the individuals’ respective roles should be clarified in the “Notes” column.



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Foster-Carer			
1.6 Medical procedure carried out in the home where the person administering the procedure requires training (eg. child with disability/illness)	Trained Foster-Carer/parent		
1.7 Dental - signed consent to dental emergency treatment including anaesthetic	Parent with PR		
1.8 Dental - routine treatment including anaesthetic	Parent with PR		
1.9 Optician – appointments, glasses	Foster-Carers / Parent with PR		
1.10 Consent to examination	Parent with PR / Foster-carer		



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/treatment by school Doctor			
1.11 Administration of prescribed/over the counter medications	Foster - Carers		
1.12 Permission for school to administer prescribed/over the counter medications	Parent with PR / Foster - Carers		
1.13 Referral/ consent for YP to access another service eg. CAMHS	Parent with PR		

## 2. Education



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Consent / agreement / task	Who has authority to give consent / agreement or undertake the task	Notes (including notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)	Date:
2.1 Signed consent for school day trips	Foster-Carers / Parent with PR		
2.2 Signed consents for school trips of up to 4 days	Parent with PR		
2.3 Signed consents for school trips of over 4 days	Parent with PR		
2.4 School trips abroad	Parent with PR		
2.5 Using computers at school	Foster - Carer		
2.6 School photos	Foster-Carers / Parent with PR		
2.7 Attendance at parents'	Foster-Carers /		



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Consent / agreement / task	Who has authority to give consent / agreement or undertake the task	Notes (including notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)	Date:
evenings	Parent with PR		
2.8 Attendance at PEP meetings	Social Worker / Foster-Carers / parent with PR		
2.9 Attendance at unplanned meetings re incidents or immediate issues	Foster-Carers / parent with PR		
2.10 Registering at a school	Parent with PR		
2.11 Changing a school	Parent with PR		
2.12 Referral/ consent for YP to access another service (please	Parent with PR / Social Worker		



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Consent / agreement / task	Who has authority to give consent / agreement or undertake the task	Notes (including notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)	Date:
specify the service)			
2.13 Personal Health and Social Education	Foster - Carers / parent with PR / Social Worker		

### 3. Personal, leisure and home life

Consent/ agreement / task	Who has authority to give consent/ agreement or undertake the task	Notes (including notifications, prior consultation /recording requirement/conditions)	Date
3.1 Passport application	Parent with PR		
3.2 Overnight with friends ('sleep overs')	Foster-Carer / parent with PR		
3.3 Holidays	Parent with PR		



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Consent/ agreement / task	Who has authority to give consent/ agreement or undertake the task	Notes (including notifications, prior consultation /recording requirement/conditions)	Date
within the UK			
3.4 Holidays outside the British Islands	Parent with PR		
3.5 Holidays during school term-times	Assistant Director / Virtual School / Parent with PR		
3.6 Sports/ social clubs	Foster-Carers / parent with PR		
3.7 More hazardous activities- e.g horse riding, skiing, rock climbing	Parent with PR		
3.8 Haircuts/ colouring	Foster-Carer / parent with PR		
3.9 Body piercing	Parent with PR	In English law, it is illegal for under 16s to have their genitals pierced. It is also illegal for females under 16 to have their breasts pierced, although this does not apply to males under 16.	





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Consent/ agreement / task	Who has authority to give consent/ agreement or undertake the task	Notes (including notifications, prior consultation /recording requirement/conditions)	Date
3.10 Tattoos	N/A	It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to have a tattoo.	
3.11 Purchase and management of Mobile phone	Foster-Carer / parent with PR		
3.12 Part time employment	Foster-Carer / parent with PR	The youngest age a child can work part-time is 13, except children involved in areas such as TV, theatre and modelling (these require a performance licence). Please refer to Gov.UK Child Employment Guidance for details.	
3.13 Accessing and management of social networking sites e.g. Facebook, Twitter, MSN	Foster-Carer / parent with PR		
3.14 Photos or other media activity	Parent with PR		



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**4. Faith and religious observance**

<b>Consent /agreement /task</b>	<b>Who has authority to give consent/ agreement or undertake the task</b>	<b>Notes (including notifications, prior consultation /recording requirement/conditions)</b>	<b>Date</b>
4.1 New or changes in faith, church or religious observance	Parent with PR		
4.2 Attendance at a place of worship	Parent with PR		

**5 Identity and Names**

<b>Consent /agreement/ task</b>	<b>Who has authority to give consent/ agreement or undertake the task</b>	<b>Notes (including notifications, prior consultation /recording requirement/conditions)</b>	<b>Date</b>
5.1 New or changes in	Parent with PR		



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'nicknames', order of first names, or preferred names.			
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**6. Contact**

<b>Consent/agreement/task</b>	<b>Who has authority to give consent/ agreement or undertake the task</b>	<b>Notes (including. prior consultation/ notification /recording requirement/conditions)</b>	<b>Date</b>
6.1 Transport	To be discussed with Social Worker, Parent with PR and Foster-Carers		
6.2 Arranging	To be discussed with Social Worker, Parent with PR and Foster-Carers		
6.3 Facilitation	To be discussed with Social Worker, Parent with PR		



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	and Foster-Carers		
6.4 Formal supervision	To be discussed with Social Worker, Parent with PR and Foster-Carers		

**7. Other areas or categories**

<b>Consent /agreement/ task</b>	<b>Who has authority to give consent/ agreement or undertake the task</b>	<b>Notes (including prior consultation /notification / recording requirement /conditions)</b>	<b>Date</b>

**SIGNATURES:**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION EG. PARENT / FOSTER/CARER/SOCIAL WORKER</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>



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