

Arrangements where Children and Young People live with family and friends (Kinship) Carers

	Kinship Foster Care	Special Guardianship Order	Child Arrangements Order	Informal Kinship Care	Private Fostering
Who made the arrangement?	Local Authority placed the child	Local Authority placed the child or child's parents made the arrangements or carer stepped in because the parents were not available	Local Authority placed the child or child's parents made the arrangements or carer stepped in because the parents were not available	Child's parents made the arrangements or carer stepped in because the parents were not available.	Child's parents made the arrangements or carer stepped in because the parents were not available.
Is the child looked after?	Child is looked after	When a Special Guardianship Order is in place, the child is not looked after but may have been looked after before the order was granted	When a Child Arrangements Order is in place, the child is not looked after but may have been looked after before the order was granted	Child is not looked after	Child is not looked after
Did the Local Authority approve this arrangement?	Local Authority approved the carer	A Special Guardianship arrangement may be made in private law proceedings or the order could be granted at the end of Care Proceedings	A Child Arrangements Order may be made in private law proceedings or the order could be granted at the end of Care Proceedings	No approval made	Arrangement is assessed for suitability but not approved by the Local Authority. Arrangement may be prohibited if assessed as unsuitable because of the carer or the accommodation
Is there a legal order?	The child may be the subject of a Care Order of accommodated under s20 Children Act	Yes a Special Guardianship Order	Yes a Child Arrangement Order	No legal order in place	Not supported by a legal order

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How long will the arrangement last?	Arrangement is intended to last as per the requirements of the care plan or until an alternative order is made	Arrangement is intended to last until the child becomes 18 unless varied or discharged by the court before child becomes 18	Arrangement is intended to last until the child becomes 18	Duration of the arrangement is subject to the discretion of the parent or person with Parental responsibility	Arrangement is intended to last for 28 days or more
Who has Parental Responsibility (PR)?	Remains with birth parents if the child is accommodated under s20 Children Act; or if the child is subject to a care order or Emergency Protection order, the Local Authority shares PR and determines the extent it is delegated to others	Birth parents retain Parental Responsibility but the Special Guardianship carer has overriding parental responsibility. There are decisions that cannot be made without the consent of the parents; or if parents do not consent, without the permission of the court. These include: changing the child's last name; removing the child from the UK for more than three months; situation where consent is required by law, e.g. male circumcision; and giving consent for the child to be placed for adoption	Birth parents retain Parental Responsibility and share this with the Child Arrangements carer. There are decisions that cannot be made without the consent of the parents; or if parents do not consent, without the permission of the court. These include: changing the child's last name; removing the child from the UK for more than three months; situation where consent is required by law, e.g. male circumcision; and giving consent for the child to be placed for adoption	Parental Responsibility remains with birth parents but the carer may do what is reasonable to safeguard or promote the child's welfare; and has delegated responsibility unless an alternative legal order is in force.	Parental Responsibility remains with the birth parents