

Delegated Authority for Fostering Placements

(FORMS PART OF THE CHILD'S PLACEMENT PLAN)

Who delegates the authority? (Service Delivery Manager in the Local Authority if Full Care Order or interim Care Order, although good practice would be for parents to be consulted with and their views sought. For s.20 (voluntary accommodation) placements, only persons with Parental Responsibility can delegate authority).

Refer to guidance in the Delegated Authority Policy when deciding on what to delegate to a foster carer

Child / Young person	
Foster Carers whom responsibility is delegated to	

1 Medical and Health

Consent / agreement / task	To who is the authority delegated?	Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)
1.1 Signed consent to emergency medical treatment inc. anaesthesia		<i>Service Delivery Manager/persons with PR Consider whether this should be delegated to the foster carer, specifically with long term placements, children with known medical needs and whether local anaesthetic should be considered differently to general.</i>
1.2 Consent – routine immunisations		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>
1.3 Planned medical procedures		<i>Service Delivery Manager/persons with PR Consider whether this should be delegated to the foster carer, specifically with long term placements, children with known medical needs and whether local anaesthetic should be considered differently to general. This can be delegated</i>

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1.4 Medical procedure carried out in the home where the person administering the procedure requires training (e.g. child with disability / illness)		<p><i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i></p>
1.5 Dental – signed consent to dental emergency treatment incl. anaesthetic		<p><i>Service Delivery Manager/persons with PR Consider whether this should be delegated to the foster carer, specifically with long term placements, children with known medical needs and whether local anaesthetic should be considered differently to general.</i></p>
1.6 Dental – routine treatment inc. anaesthesia		<p><i>As routine treatment is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i></p> <p><i>In terms of anaesthesia, this may be the Service Delivery Manager/persons with PR Consider whether this should be delegated to the foster carer, specifically with long term placements, children with known medical needs and whether local anaesthetic should be considered differently to general.</i></p>
1.7 Optician – appointments, glasses		<p><i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i></p>
1.8 Consent to examination / treatment by school doctor		<p><i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i></p>

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Consent / agreement / task	To who is the authority delegated?	Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)
1.9 Administration of prescribed / over the counter medications		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer. Consider if there are any allergies</i>
1.10 Permission for school to administer prescribed / over the counter medications		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer. Consider if there are any allergies</i>
1.11 Referral / consent for YP to access another service e.g. CAMHS		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>

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2 Education

Consent / agreement / task	To who is the authority delegated?	Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)
2.1 Signed consent for school day trips		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>
Consent / agreement / task	To who is the authority delegated?	<i>Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)</i>
2.2 Signed consents for school trips of up to 4 days		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>
2.3 Signed consents for school trips of over 4 days		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>
2.4 School trips abroad		<i>To prevent delay, ordinarily this should be delegated to the foster carer, but the child's social worker should be informed and a letter of permission to take the child abroad would be required from the Local Authority</i>

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2.5 Using computers at school		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>
2.6 School photos		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer. Consider any risks around the child having school emblems, purpose of the photos and where they will go.</i>
2.7 Attendance at parents' evenings		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer. Consideration should be given to whether parents <u>and</u> foster carers should attend</i>
2.8 Attendance at PEP meetings		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>
2.9 Attendance at unplanned meetings re: incidents or immediate issues		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>
2.10 Registering at a school		<i>This should be completed by the child's social worker in consultation with the Virtual Head</i>

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<p>2.11 Changing a school</p>		<p><i>This should be completed by the child's social worker in consultation with the Virtual Head</i></p>
<p>2.12 Referral / consent for YP to access another service (please specify the service)</p>		<p><i>As this is a day to day decision and to avoid delay, this should be delegated to the foster carer and the child's social worker should be consulted/informed.</i></p>
<p>2.13 Personal health and social education</p>		<p><i>As this is a day to day decision and to avoid delay, this should be delegated to the foster carer and the child's social worker should be consulted/informed.</i></p>

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3 Personal, leisure and home life

Consent / agreement / task	To who is the authority delegated?	Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)
3.1 Passport application Can only be applied for by someone holding PR		<i>Can only be signed for by person with PR or SDM</i>
3.2 Overnight with friends ("sleep overs")		<i>As this is a day to day decision and to avoid delay, this should be delegated to the foster carer and the child's social worker should be consulted/informed.</i>
3.3 Holidays within the British islands		<i>As this is a day to day decision and to avoid delay, this should be delegated to the foster carer and the child's social worker should be consulted/informed. However, contact arrangements should be prioritised and considered beforehand.</i>
3.4 Holidays outside the British islands		<i>Letters for permission to take a child abroad are needed from the Local Authority and/or person with PR. However, contact arrangements should be prioritised and considered beforehand.</i>
3.5 Sports / social clubs		<i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i>

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3.6 More hazardous activities e.g. horse riding, skiing, rock climbing		<i>Can be delegated but the SW to be aware of arrangements in advance so risk assessment can be completed</i>
3.7 Haircuts / colouring		<i>Should be delegated, as it is a day to day decision. However, dramatic changes that are planned should be agreed beforehand in consultation with persons with PR and SW.</i>
3.8 Body piercing Including earrings.		<i>It is illegal for under 16's to have their genitals pierced. It is also illegal for females under 16 to have their breasts pierced. Consultation with SW & persons with PR prior to other piercings.</i>
3.9 Tattoos	N/A	<i>It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to have a tattoo</i>
3.10 Mobile phone		This can be delegated to foster carers, but in consultation with the SW and those with PR.

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3.11 Part time employment		<p><i>This can be delegated to foster carers. However ensure actions are inline with employment law and Education Act 2002 (advice can be sought from Child Employment Officer, Telford & Wrekin Council for any employment for 13 -16 year olds.</i></p>
3.12 Accessing social networking sites e.g. Facebook, Twitter, MSN		<p><i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer. Consideration should be given to legal requirements about age ie 13 for Facebook and also risks around who the child might contact through these media.</i></p>
3.13 Photos that may enter the public domain.		<p><i>This can be delegated to foster carers, but any potential risks should be considered ie pictures of sports activities in local papers. Also ensure that the SW is made aware of these situations. No photos of any child may be added to social media sites (e.g. Facebook) by anyone.</i></p>

4 Faith and religious observance

Consent / agreement / task	To who is authority delegated	Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)
4.1 New or changes in faith, church or religious observance		<p><i>This should not be forced or encouraged with a child, but any new/changes should be agreed by someone with PR</i></p>
4.2 Attendance at a place of worship		<p><i>As this is a day to day decision, this should be delegated to the foster carer.</i></p>

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5 Identity and names

Consent / agreement / task	To who is authority delegated?	Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)
5.1 Life story work		<i>Any life story work delivered to the child (as a therapeutic session) should be carried out by the child's social worker, or an independent life story worker, not by the foster carer. It is expected that the foster carer should gather mementoes, photos etc from the day to day life of the child as memories.</i>
5.2 New or changes in "nicknames", order of first names, or preferred names		<i>This should not usually be delegated to a foster carer. There may be situations where a name change should be considered and in these circumstances, should be done on agreement with the child's social worker and/or a person with PR</i>

6 Contact / Family Time

Consent / agreement / task	To who is authority delegated?	Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)
6.1 Transport		<i>It is usually the responsibility of the foster carer to transport a child to/from family time. Any risks around this should be managed by the Local Authority If the carer is unable to transport, discussions should be had with the child's social worker about making alternative arrangements</i>

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6.2 Arranging		<p><i>Generally, the Local Authority would arrange contact However, in some placements, contact arrangements can be delegated to the foster carer, with the social worker providing guidance around frequency, duration, venue etc.</i></p>
6.3 Formal supervision		<p><i>Formal supervision of contact is usually completed by the child's social worker a contact worker, or another worker designated to undertake this task. In some instances, in agreement with the foster carer and their supervising social worker, a foster carer might be delegated to supervise contact. In these instances, clear guidance is needed from the child's social worker about the boundaries, parameters, recording requirements etc.</i></p>

7 Other areas or categories

Consent / agreement / task	Notes (incl. notifications, prior consultation / recording requirement / conditions)

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8 Additional notes or questions

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Signatures:

Please note, without a signature of someone with PR (parent and/or SDM, if on an order), the document is invalid

	Name	Signature
Parent		
Parent		
Foster Carer		
Foster Carer		
Childs Social Worker		
Fostering Social Worker		
Service Delivery Manager		

Date: