



Little Forest Folk Separated Parents Policy

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Reviewed by: Xiao Flynn

Separated/Divorced Parents

Little Forest Folk recognises that while the parents of some children may be divorced or estranged, both have a right to be informed of and involved in their child's educational process. Little Forest Folk also recognises that parents who are estranged or divorced may disagree regarding the education of the child, and/or may attempt to limit one another's access to their child. Despite such estrangement, both parents are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the child's education.

Parents are presumed to have joint custody of the child unless we are informed and presented with a court order or written agreement between the parents denying or limiting custody for either parent.

PROGRESS REPORTS AND CHILDRENS RECORDS

Both parents have the right to receive reports and review the child's records of their children. If the parents are separated or divorced, reports will be sent to both parents.

Both parents have the right to review their child's records.

Any request to review the child's records must comply with the Little Forest Folk's Information Sharing Policy.

PARTICIPATION IN PARENT AND EDUCATOR MEETINGS

Both parents are welcome, and encouraged, to participate in parent and educator meetings and any other events organised by Little Forest Folk regarding the child's education. If the parents are separated or divorced, both parents will be provided with details of such meetings and events.

VISITATION WITH THE CHILD AT SCHOOL

Generally, both parents have the right to attend nursery exhibition evenings or any events open to parents in the child's nursery or visit the child at the nursery. Such visitation will be limited only if the nursery has received a copy of a court order specifically restricting the parent's access to the child by: 1) denying the parent's visitation rights; or 2) requiring supervision of the parent's visitation with the child. The nursery does not have the responsibility to supervise visitation between a parent and his/her child and, thus, will not allow parent access in the nursery.

When visiting the nursery, all parents are required to comply with all Little Forest Folk's policies and not take any action which disrupts the educational process. If a parent takes any action which the nursery considers to be inappropriate or disruptive to the educational process, he/she may be requested to leave and prohibited from returning.

RELEASE OF THE CHILD TO SOMEONE OTHER THAN THE CUSTODIAL PARENT



Parents with joint custody may both collect their child from nursery. In situations where there is a custodial parent, only the custodial parent has the right to authorise collection of the child from school. If the custodial parent desires that the child be collected by another individual, he/she must inform the Nursery Manager that he/she is authorising such party to collect the child and ensure that the person collecting the child can provide the password. No child will be released to any other person if the parent has not notified the manager and the person collecting is unable to provide the password.

If the non-custodial parent seeks to collect the child from nursery, and the custodial parent has not consented, the following steps will be followed:

1. The Nursery Manager will meet with the non-custodial parent and, in his/her presence, telephone the custodial parent and explain the request. If the custodial parent agrees, the child will be released, and the records will reflect that the permission was granted orally.
2. If the Nursery Manager has reason to believe that a possible abduction of the child may occur at the school or the parent is disruptive, the police will be called immediately.