**Best Practice Briefing: Placement with Parents Arrangements.**

 **The Non-negotiables**

Ascertain views/wishes of child, adults with PR, Consult with previous carers, IRO, other professionals involved about proposed placement with parents - as part of your Assessment.

**Assessment Checks undertaken to include:-**

Parent(s), parent's partner, all household members

over 16yrs

***Police checks*** / DBS checks

Children Services checks & NSPCC \*\*

[***GP checks***](https://onesourceict.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/HaveringSocialCareAcademy/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B5F933E83-2005-4E67-87B3-BA509CD9554E%7D&file=GP%20request%20template%20-_.doc&action=default&mobileredirect=true)

Please remember [***consent*** is](https://onesourceict.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/HaveringSocialCareAcademy/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B413954D7-A52D-4C2E-995F-5F480D1A02D6%7D&file=Consent%20for%20all%20checks%20and%20gathering%20and%20sharing.doc&action=default&mobileredirect=true) required (use the letter template in the link).

The Assessment must be completed along with the [***Placement with Parents (PWP) Agreement***](https://onesourceict.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/HaveringSocialCareAcademy/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B92DBF3C2-E3A3-429D-9222-6C03078E29A8%7D&file=BLANK%20PWP%20agreement%20Jan%202023.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true)to be formulated and signed by all parties (incl of parent(s). **final sign** off by – the Nominated Manager **BEFORE** placement commences

 **Notifications of Placement**

The notifications to non-resident parents (with PR), wider family consulted, other departments and partner agencies. This should be before the start of the placement or within 5 working days.

***Please remember to:***

Get the PWP agreement signed by child, parent and Nominated Manager before uploading to LCS. with a 'management oversight' case note.

Notify IRO, School and LAC Nurse & Child's GP , YJS and any other professional with an active involvement of the change of residence.

Ending of Placement

Wherever possible the decision to end a placement should be made at a Looked After Review and the ending should take place in a planned way.

Not less hat 14 days notice of removal of the child should be given to their parent(s), save in an emergency.

**Immediate/ Unplanned Placements (Reg 19 placement )which means the child was placed before the assessment completed.**

Complete the PWP Agreement with a full [***Risk Assessment***](https://onesourceict.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/HaveringSocialCareAcademy/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B1B6A7868-0EB3-4EA1-AE4B-C81CE5EDA6D1%7D&file=RISK%20%20ASSESSMENT%20FORM%20Blank%20(3).doc&action=default&mobileredirect=true)seeking

**temporary** sign off by Head of Service.

**Complete Parent Capacity Assessment** within 10 working

days of placement commencing. The assessment with the updated **PWP agreement** to be formally approved by AD or (Nominated Manager) by Day 20 of child living with parent.

If the Nominated Manager’s decision is not to confirm the placement, the placement will be terminated.

**Series of Short Term Placements** e.g: regular overnight/weekend stays of a child with a parent, the requirements as to consultation, enquiries and checks can be carried out once only rather than every time a placement is made, provided that:

All the placements take place within a twelve months period;

No single placement is for a period of more than four weeks; and

The total duration of the placements does not exceed 90 days

**Governance**

A Placement with Parents (PWP) arrangement can **only** be made after the approval of the Designated Manager has been given and the Placement Plan prepared.

In Havering is our Assistant Director (or Nominated Manager), must be satisfied that :-

* The child's wishes and feelings have been ascertained and given due consideration;
* The assessment of parents' suitability to care for the child (see Section 1.2 of the procedures, Assessment and Checks before Placement) has been completed;
* The placement address has been visited and is safe;

In normal circumstances, the child's placement with their parent must be part of the Care Plan, upon the recommendation of a Child in Care Review. However, if the child has previously suffered Significant Harm when living with the parent and continues to be the subject of a Child Protection Plan, the placement may only be authorised upon the recommendation of a Child Protection Review Conference.

**What is it and who is it for?**

A child who is in Local Authority arranged care and subject to a care order (Sec 31 of CA1989) or interim care order (Sec 38 of CA1989) can only be placed with a parent/s in accordance with specific Placement with Parents regulations.

For more information check out Havering procedures for [Placement with Parents](https://haveringchild.proceduresonline.com/p_place_with_parents.html?zoom_highlight=placement+with+parents)

**Planned Placements ( Reg 28 of Care Planning, Placement & Case Review )**

Complete Parenting Capacity Assessment (incl. birth parent(s) and all other adults’ members in the household. **BEFORE** considering this placement option.

Good Practice is consideration for Placement with Parents should be recommendations of the Looked After Review (and Child Protection Review Conference where applicable) will then be sent to the Nominated Manager, together with the **Care Plan** and **proposed Placement Plan** and the **written report** .

The placement can only be made after the approval of the Nominated Officer has been given and the Placement Plan prepared.

**Statutory Timescales**

**Immediate Placement**

If the child subject to S38 or S31 order is placed with parents in these circumstances, social work visits must take place **at least once a week** until the first Child in Care Review, and thereafter at intervals of not more than 4 weeks; **unless risk assessed as otherwise**.

1st Child in Care Review should be held within 20 working days.