



Hilldrop Area Community Association – Play Projects Separated Parents Policy September 2021

Policy No. 27	This policy was adopted by HACA in May 2018 and will be reviewed at least every 2 years.	Date of Review: September 2021
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Purpose and Aims

Evidence shows that after separation¹, children do best when those around them cooperate, provide stability, and avoid conflict. We understand that this can be difficult and can direct you to further support services should we find this helpful. Our priority is always the needs of the child, and our aim is to work with all parties to promote positive family involvement. At HILLDROP PLAY PROJECTS we recognise that while some parents may be divorced or separated, both have a right to be informed of, and involved in, their child’s educational progress.

This policy clarifies what is expected from separated parents and carers, the school and its staff. The guidance in this policy will apply unless HILLDROP PLAY PROJECTS is made aware of any Court Orders in place and has a copy of the documentation as confirmation. Parents may need to check on who has official parental responsibility and provide evidence of this.

Our Responsibility

HILLDROP PLAY PROJECTS will:

- Recognise the sensitivity of situations where there are parental disputes around the care of and access to children and will maintain confidentiality, requested by parents, as far as possible
- Give access to formal documentation, such as reports, to both parents. Newsletters are also available to both parents via email on request.
- Send routine information, such as letters, to the parent with whom the child lives. In the case of shared residency, this will be sent to the parent with whom the child lives for the majority of the time or both parents if requested

¹ Within this policy separated refers to parents who have previously lived together as well as those who have co-parented separately from a child’s birth)

- Not act as a line of communication between parents who are in conflict regarding their child's education.

Parental Responsibility

Parents are expected to:

- Keep the HILLDROP PLAY PROJECTS up to date with any changes in family circumstances
- Ensure that HILLDROP PLAY PROJECTS has the correct emergency contact details
- Keep HILLDROP PLAY PROJECTS informed, in writing, of any disputes they have with each other regarding the access to and collection of children.
- Liaise and communicate directly with each other in matters such as booked sessions at HILLDROP PLAY PROJECTS

Other Relevant Policies

This policy is linked to our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy which sets out our duty of care to safeguard all children.

Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years by the Trustees of Hilldrop Area Community Association
The scheduled review date for this policy is May 2022

Useful Contacts:

1. Islington Family Information Service for information about a range of services to support children, young people and families:

<http://directory.islington.gov.uk/kb5/islington/directory/service.page?id=BsNZ36XvrPY>

2. For specific services which may offer advice and support around family:

http://directory.islington.gov.uk/kb5/islington/directory/results.page?familychannelnew=6_5