



Leavening Community Primary School

Separated Parents and Families Policy - Children's Guide

Why do we have this guide?

At **Leavening Community Primary** we know that every family is different. Some children live with both parents, some live with one parent, some split their time between two homes, and some are cared for by other family members or carers.

Sometimes families go through changes such as separation, divorce, new relationships or other changes at home. We understand that these changes can sometimes be difficult and may bring lots of different feelings.

This guide explains how we will support you and how we work with the important adults in your life to help you feel safe, happy and successful at school.

What matters most to us?

We want every child to:

- Feel safe in school.
- Feel listened to.
- Be treated fairly and respectfully.
- Know who they can talk to if they are worried.
- Enjoy learning and school life.
- Feel supported when things change at home.

If things change at home

Sometimes families experience changes such as:

- Parents separating or divorcing.
- Moving between different homes.
- New people joining the family.
- Changes in who cares for you.

If something important changes at home, it can help if your parent, carer or another trusted adult lets school know.

This means we can:

- Understand if you might need extra support.
- Help you settle into any new routines.

- Be aware if you are finding things difficult.
- Make sure we are supporting you in the best possible way.

You do not have to deal with these changes on your own.

Who can I talk to?

If you are worried, upset or confused about something happening at home, you can talk to:

- Your class teacher.
- A trusted member of staff.
- A teaching assistant.
- The safeguarding team.
- A member of the leadership team.

We will listen to you and do our best to help.

Will school take sides if adults disagree?

Sometimes adults disagree with each other, especially during difficult times.

The school's job is not to take sides.

Our job is to:

- Support you.
- Help you learn.
- Keep you safe.
- Treat everyone respectfully.

We will always focus on what is best for you.

How will school work with my parents or carers?

We try to help all the important adults in your life stay involved in your education whenever it is safe and appropriate to do so.

This may include sharing information about:

- Your learning and progress.
- School events.
- Parents' evenings.
- Trips and activities.
- Important school updates.

We want the adults supporting you to have the information they need to help you succeed.

What if I live in two homes?

Many children live in more than one home.

We understand that moving between homes can sometimes be exciting, challenging or a bit of both.

If needed, we will try to help by:

- Understanding your routines.
- Supporting you during transitions.
- Helping you feel settled in school.
- Listening if you have worries or concerns.

Will my information be kept private?

We will treat personal information carefully and respectfully.

As you get older, your views about your personal information become increasingly important.

There may be times when we need to share information with certain adults or professionals to keep you safe or support your wellbeing. If this happens, we will always think carefully about what is in your best interests.

If you ever have worries about home, school or friendships, please speak to a trusted adult.

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