

The Pioneers Academy

Separated Parents Policy

Policy and Procedures • 2026–2027

School	The Pioneers Academy
Policy owner	Headteacher
Effective from	September 2026
Review date	September 2027, or sooner if legislation/guidance changes
Primary statutory/guidance basis	Children Act 1989; Education law; data protection principles

1. Purpose and Scope

The Academy will act in the best interests of the child and will communicate appropriately with parents and carers who have parental responsibility, subject to court orders and safeguarding considerations.

2. Policy Statement and Procedures

The Academy will not normally become involved in private disputes between separated parents. Relevant court orders, restrictions or safeguarding information must be provided to the school promptly.

Information will be shared in accordance with parental responsibility, lawful rights, data protection law and the child's welfare. Where there is uncertainty, the Academy may seek appropriate advice.

The Academy may restrict communication or contact where necessary to protect pupils, staff or the orderly operation of the school, while maintaining lawful access to education information.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for implementation and review. Relevant designated leads coordinate day-to-day arrangements within their area. All staff are expected to follow the policy, maintain appropriate records and raise concerns promptly. Pupils and parents/carers are expected to follow the Academy's published expectations and cooperate with reasonable procedures.

4. Monitoring, Review and Record Keeping

Implementation will be monitored through appropriate records, audits, pupil/parent feedback, incident information, attendance or participation data and review by senior leaders. The policy will be reviewed at least annually unless a different statutory review period applies, and immediately where significant legal or operational changes require it.

5. Related Policies and Guidance

This policy should be read alongside the Academy's safeguarding and child protection arrangements, behaviour policy, attendance procedures, equality arrangements, data protection arrangements and any relevant individual plans or risk assessments.

6. Approval

Approved by: / Headteacher

Next review: September 2027

References

- Department for Education, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026, where relevant.
- Department for Education statutory guidance and current legislation relevant to this policy.
- The Pioneers Academy's other current policies and procedures.