

Advance Consent to Adoption

Section 20 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002

Name of child

Before signing this form you are advised to seek legal advice about consenting to adoption and the effect on your parental rights. Publicly funded legal advice may be available from the Community Legal Service. You can get information about this or find a solicitor through CLS Direct on www.clsdirect.org.uk or by telephoning 0845 345 4 345

Name and address of the adoption agency in the matter:

.....
.....
.....
.....

I consent to the making of a final adoption order for _____ (my child)

*in favour of any prospective adopter(s) chosen by the adoption agency.

*in favour of _____ (the named prospective adopter(s)).

*in favour of the prospective adopter(s) identified as _____.

*in favour of _____ (the named prospective adopter(s)) and, if this placement breaks down, in favour of any prospective adopter(s) chosen by the adoption agency.

*in favour of the prospective adopter(s) identified as _____ and, if this placement breaks down, in favour of any prospective adopter(s) chosen by the adoption agency.
*(*please delete as appropriate)*

I understand that, when an adoption order is made, I will no longer legally be treated as the parent, and that my child will from then on become part of the adopter(s)' family.

I understand that I may withdraw my consent to the making of an adoption order at any time until the prospective adopter(s) start(s) an adoption application in the court. After that time, I may only oppose the making of the adoption order if the court gives me permission to do so. The court will only consider giving permission if I can show that there has been a change of circumstances since I gave my consent.

I understand that when the application for an adoption order is heard, this document may be used as evidence of my agreement to the making of the order unless I inform the court otherwise.

I have not received any payment or reward from any person making arrangements for the adoption of my child.

[I have taken legal advice] /[I have not taken legal advice, but I have been advised to do so],
about giving my consent to adoption and the effect on my parental rights.
*(*delete as appropriate)*

I consent, unconditionally and with full understanding of what is involved, to the making of a final adoption order for _____ (my child).

Signed.....

On the.....day of20xx

Witness statement

This form was signed by
on the.....day of20xx
before me *(print full name)*.....

Signed.....

Office of witness*
Address of witness.....
.....
.....

* In England and Wales this form must be witnessed by an officer of the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service or, where the child is ordinarily resident in Wales, by a Welsh family proceedings officer. In Scotland it should be witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or a Sheriff, and in Northern Ireland by a Justice of the Peace.

Outside the United Kingdom, the form should be witnessed by a person who is authorised by law in the place where the document is signed to administer an oath for any judicial or legal purpose, a British Consular Officer, a notary public, or, if the person executing the document is serving in the regular armed forces of the Crown, an officer holding a commission in any of those forces.