

**Note 20**

If the child has no guardian, enter 'not applicable'. Otherwise, enter the details of any person appointed to be the child's guardian by deed or will or otherwise in writing in accordance with section 5(5) of the Children Act 1989, or by an order made under section 5(1) or 14A of that Act. If the child has more than one guardian, please give the name and address of any other guardian(s) on a separate sheet, putting the child's full name, the number of the Part and the paragraph reference at the head of the sheet.

**Note 21**

If the child you are intending to adopt abroad is already the subject of a current placement order, the adoption agency has placed the child with you and no parent or guardian opposes the making of the order for parental responsibility prior to adoption abroad, you do not need to ask the court to dispense with the consent of the child's parent(s) or guardian(s) to your application. You do not have to complete paragraph (j), but please ensure that you have entered the details of the placement order in Part 2, About the Child.

If the child you are intending to take abroad for adoption is already the subject of a current freeing order, you do not need to ask the court to dispense with the consent of the child's parent(s) or guardian(s) to your application. You do not have to complete paragraph (j), but please ensure that you have entered the details of the freeing order in Part 2, About the Child.

You do not need to ask the court to dispense with the consent of the child's parent(s) or guardian(s) to your application if:

- the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) has/have consented to the making of an order for parental responsibility prior to adoption abroad, or
- the child was placed with you for adoption by an adoption agency with the consent of each parent/guardian (and the mother's consent was given when the child was at least 6 weeks old), and no parent/guardian opposes the making of an order for parental responsibility prior to adoption abroad.

Please complete paragraph (j) showing which of these conditions applies in your case.

If the child's father or other parent does not have parental responsibility for the child, you do not need that parent's consent to your application for an order for parental responsibility prior to adoption abroad.

**Note 22**

If you are asking the court to dispense with the consent of any parent or guardian, the court can only dispense with that person's consent if it is satisfied that:

- he or she cannot be found, or
- he or she lacks capacity (within the meaning of the Mental Capacity Act 2005) to give consent; or
- the welfare of the child requires it.

You must complete paragraph (j) indicating which of these three grounds applies to your request. The court will also require from you a brief statement setting out a summary of the history of the case and any other facts to satisfy the court that the grounds for your request apply. This statement is known as a 'statement of facts'. If a parent cannot be found, your statement of facts should give details of the steps taken to trace him/her. The statement of facts must be signed by your solicitor, or by you (both of you) if you do not have a solicitor.

You should attach your statement of facts, **and two copies of the statement**, to your application form. You should also attach any documents you are submitting in support of your statement.

**Important:** The court will send a copy of your statement of facts to each parent or guardian of the child. If you intend to ask the court to keep your identity confidential, you should make certain that the statement of facts does not include any information that could identify you, where you live, or where the child goes to school or nursery.