

Note 4

If you are a prospective adopter (that is, you will be making an application to adopt the child) and you do not want your identity to be made known to the parents or guardians of the child, the court will issue you with a serial number. Any documents sent to the other parties will show the serial number, not your personal details. If you are required to attend the same court hearing, the court will make arrangements to ensure that your identity is protected.

If a serial number has already been issued to you, please ensure that it is entered in Part 2, paragraph (g) (About other orders or proceedings that affect the child).

Note 5

If there are any other earlier, or current, court proceedings relating to the child, give the name of the court, the nature of the proceedings and the date and effect of any order made. If you were a party to any proceedings that have been completed, you should attach a copy of the final order to your application. You do not need to enter here the details of the contact order you are asking the court to vary or revoke. Instead, you should enter those details in Part 4 'About this application'.

Note 6

If the child has previously been adopted, give the names of his/her adoptive parents and not those of his/her natural parents.

Note 7

If the child's parents were not married at the time of his/her birth, the child's father may have acquired parental responsibility

- by subsequent marriage to the child's mother;
- because he has a parental responsibility agreement with the mother, or has been granted a parental responsibility order, or
- because he registered the child's birth jointly with the child's mother (on or after 1 December 2003).

Give details of any court order or agreement in respect of parental responsibility in Part 2 About the child, paragraph (g).

Note 8

If the child does not have a 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 9

If you are a prospective adopter and you already have a serial number or have asked for one to be issued, you should make sure that the reasons for your application do not include any information that could lead to your identity being disclosed.

Any applicant who has withheld their address or telephone number, or the child's address or the name of the person with whom the child lives should make sure that they do not include any information that could lead to those details being disclosed.

Special assistance or facilities for disability if you attend the court

Note 10

If you need special assistance or special facilities for a disability or impairment, please set out your requirements in full. The court staff will need to know, for example, whether you want documents to be supplied in an alternative format, such as Braille or large print. They will also need to know about any specific requirements you may have on the day of the hearing, such as wheelchair access, a hearing loop, or a sign language interpreter.

The court staff will get in touch with you about your requirements. It is important that you make the court aware of all your needs. If you do not, the result may be that the hearing has to be adjourned.