

**Legal Framework for Looked after Children**

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| Legal Status | Parental Responsibility & Consent |
| Section 20 “Accomodated”  Parents also have the right to withdraw consent for routine care. It is advisable to be aware of the consent arrangements for each child | Child is LAC – Parental responsibility (PR) lies solely with the parent. It is a voluntary arrangement  Parents give delegated consent to KCC for routine healthcare.  Consent to invasive treatment must be given by the parent.  Local authority will consent for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children who are unable to consent for themselves. |
| Care Order – Valid until child’s 18th Birthday | Child is LAC – PR is shared between parents and local authority (LA)  LA gives Delegated Consent to carers who consent to immunisations and routine care.  Additional consent needs to be obtained from LA Service Manager for invasive procedures or surgery. |
| Placement Order | Child is LAC – PR is shared between parents and Local authority. LA has authorisation to place a child for adoption.  Consent – Same for Care Order |
| Special Guardianship Order | Child is not LAC – special guardian has PR as well as parents.  Special Guardian can consent and exercise PR without having to seek the consent of the Birth parent. |

The Children Act 1989