



## 01

Mothers automatically have PR, fathers have to be named on the birth cert or married to mum at the time of birth, therefore legal responsibility for fathers will depend on whether they hold PR. If dad is named on a Child Arrangements Order, this will also give him PR.

PR holders are legally responsible for decisions relating to medical care, education etc. Parents are also responsible for providing a reasonable standard of care etc. If parents fail to meet this reasonable standard, the local authority can become involved, and care proceedings may be issued. Once subject to a care order, the Local Authority then holds Parental Responsibility.

## 02



If a child has a carer, instead of parent, it depends on the care arrangement as to the legal responsibility. For example, a Special Guardianship Order supersedes PR, so a carer with an SGO outranks the parents. That SGO gives them the right to make all the decisions about medical needs, schools etc. If the carer has a child arrangements order, that will give them PR, just like if dad has one but is not on birth cert etc.



## 03

Legally, as a parent or carer, you have a duty of care and that in itself creates legal obligations. Not letting them starve, ensuring they are clean, ensuring needs are met and for example, keeping them safe. If your child is drowning at the beach, you have an obligation to help them. You don't have that legal obligation if they are not your child.

## 04

