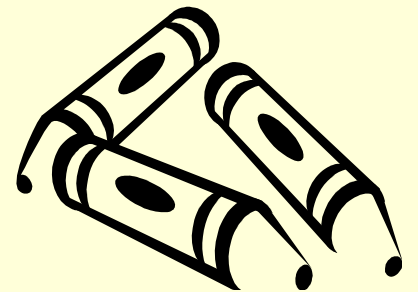


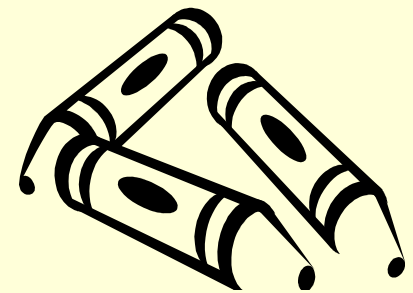


Family law in the classroom



Language

- Parenting orders
- “Live with”
- “Spend time with”
- “Communicate with”
- Parental
Responsibility
- Equal Shared
Parental
Responsibility



No orders

- Felix is 3 and has attended preschool for 4 months.
- Felix mother enrolled him. On the forms she indicated she was separated and gave the father's details.
- You see her at pick up and drop off every day.
- One day a man (Felix's father) seeks to collect him early

Who is bound by orders?

When Mark was enrolled his mother informed you that she & Mark's father did not live together and there were Court Orders from the Federal Magistrates Court which provided that Mark lived with her & spent time with his father on alternate weekends & alternate Monday nights. She gave you a copy of the Court order.

Mark's father arrives to collect Mark on a Thursday. What do you do?

Does it make any difference if the orders say that Mark lives with his mother & has no time (or supervised time only) with his father?

Obligations

- A teary female child aged four in your charge reports that “daddy made me touch his willie”
- What do you do?

Consent to medication

- Andrew has been prescribed Ritalin. His father is supportive of the diagnosis and treatment. His mother wishes to obtain a second opinion and in the meantime try non-drug therapies.
- Andrew lives predominantly with his father.
- His mother writes to the school and asks the school not to administer the medication.

Swearing an affidavit

- You are the coordinator responsible for two students: twin girls Emma and Charlotte.
- You are aware that the girls' parents are separated. You first became aware because of Emma's lurid story telling of a violent attack. This sufficiently concerned you to phone her mother & request an interview. At the interview the mother told you both girls were anxious, depressed, tearful & sometimes aggressive & she was concerned this behaviour was a consequence of the recent acrimonious separation between she & her husband. You have not met the father.
- The girls' behaviour has remained poor & their play and drawing continues to be disturbed, containing themes of violence, desertion & death.
- The girls' mother asks you to be a witness in the upcoming proceedings before the Federal Magistrates Court.

Complying with a subpoena

- Produce documents
- Give evidence
- Time
- Conduct money
- What documents

Child Support

In November you receive a letter from a child's mother which says that she and the children's father have separated and that she has no capacity to meet the fees. She tells you that she is making an application to require the father to pay the fees.

- What do you do?