

CCLP

Chester Community
Law Project



University of
Chester

This leaflet has been produced by law
students at the University of Chester.



A Guide to Prohibited Steps Orders:

Information for women

What is a prohibited steps order?



It is a legally binding order, issued by the Court, that prevents someone with parental responsibility (usually a parent) from taking a particular action in relation to the child or making decisions about the child's upbringing without the consent of the Court.

What does a prohibited steps order do?

As prohibited steps orders prevent someone from doing something, they can prevent actions such as:



A child being removed from school or nursery



Their surname being changed



Them being taken out of the country



Changing the child's religion

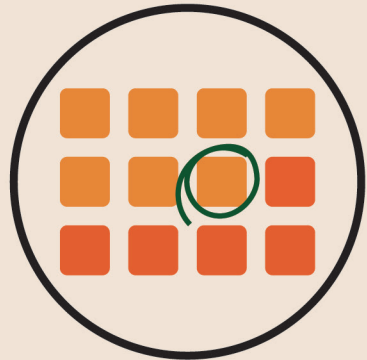
Once a prohibited steps order is made against a parent, that parent loses the ability to do the things outlined in the prohibited steps order. They are not able to do them until the court consents to it.



Are there any restrictions?



A prohibited steps order will not be made when a child has reached the age of 16 unless there are exceptional circumstances.



A prohibited steps order may be granted for a specific period or until the child reaches the age of 16.



If the child is in the care of the local authority, a prohibited steps order will not be granted.



The Court will not make a prohibited steps order if the result could be achieved by the making of a Child Arrangements Order.



How do I apply for a prohibited steps order?

You can apply for a prohibited steps order by filling out an application form.

This is called a C100 application.



The form can be found on the Government website:
<https://www.gov.uk>

