



Adoption and Children Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 38

PART 1

ADOPTION

CHAPTER 3

PLACEMENT FOR ADOPTION AND ADOPTION ORDERS

Placement of children by adoption agency for adoption

20 Advance consent to adoption

- (1) A parent or guardian of a child who consents to the child being placed for adoption by an adoption agency under section 19 may, at the same or any subsequent time, consent to the making of a future adoption order.
- (2) Consent under this section—
 - (a) where the parent or guardian has consented to the child being placed for adoption with prospective adopters identified in the consent, may be consent to adoption by them, or
 - (b) may be consent to adoption by any prospective adopters who may be chosen by the agency.
- (3) A person may withdraw any consent given under this section.
- (4) A person who gives consent under this section may, at the same or any subsequent time, by notice given to the adoption agency—
 - (a) state that he does not wish to be informed of any application for an adoption order, or
 - (b) withdraw such a statement.

Changes to legislation: Adoption and Children Act 2002, Section 20 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

(5) A notice under subsection (4) has effect from the time when it is received by the adoption agency but has no effect if the person concerned has withdrawn his consent.

(6) This section is subject to section 52 (parental etc. consent).

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 S. 20 restricted by 1978 c. 28, s. 16(3D) (as inserted (30.12.2005) by [Adoption and Children Act 2002](#) (c. 38), s. 148(1), **Sch. 3 para. 23** (with [Sch. 4 paras. 6-8](#)); [S.S.I. 2005/643](#), art. 2(c))

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Commencement Information

I1 S. 20 in force at 30.12.2005 by [S.I. 2005/2213](#), **art. 2(c)** (with savings and transitional provisions in [S.I. 2005/2897](#), arts. 3-16)

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 4A inserted by [2014 c. 6 s. 5](#)
- s. 141(7) inserted by [2010 c. 26 Sch. 3 para. 13](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 3 Pt. 2 repealed (4.9.2013) without ever being in force by 2013 c. 22, s. 17(4) ; S.I. 2013/2200 art. 2(a))