



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

26 Contact

- (1) On an adoption agency being authorised to place a child for adoption, or placing a child for adoption who is less than six weeks old, any provision for contact under the 1989 Act ceases to have effect.
- (2) While an adoption agency is so authorised or a child is placed for adoption—
 - (a) no application may be made for any provision for contact under that Act, but
 - (b) the court may make an order under this section requiring the person with whom the child lives, or is to live, to allow the child to visit or stay with the person named in the order, or for the person named in the order and the child otherwise to have contact with each other.
- (3) An application for an order under this section may be made by—
 - (a) the child or the agency,
 - (b) any parent, guardian or relative,
 - (c) any person in whose favour there was provision for contact under the 1989 Act which ceased to have effect by virtue of subsection (1),
 - (d) if a residence order was in force immediately before the adoption agency was authorised to place the child for adoption or (as the case may be) placed the

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

child for adoption at a time when he was less than six weeks old, the person in whose favour the order was made,

- (e) if a person had care of the child immediately before that time by virtue of an order made in the exercise of the High Court's inherent jurisdiction with respect to children, that person,
 - (f) any person who has obtained the court's leave to make the application.
- (4) When making a placement order, the court may on its own initiative make an order under this section.
- (5) This section does not prevent an application for a contact order under section 8 of the 1989 Act being made where the application is to be heard together with an application for an adoption order in respect of the child.
- (6) In this section, "provision for contact under the 1989 Act" means a contact order under section 8 of that Act or an order under section 34 of that Act (parental contact with children in care).