

What You Need  
To Know About

# Changing your Child's Name

---

**SKBLAW**

FAMILY LAW  
SPECIALISTS

THE  
ACADEMY

The process to change your child's name is completed by deed poll or statutory declaration. Complications can arise depending on the child's age and agreed parental responsibility.

Here's a quick guide to what you need to know.

---

**SKBLAW**

FAMILY LAW  
SPECIALISTS

THE  
ACADEMY

# If your child is under 16 years old

Only family members with parental responsibility can change their child's name. Everyone with parental responsibility will need to agree to the change.

For official documents, such as passports or driving licenses, you will need to complete a deed poll.

For unofficial documents, you can complete a statutory declaration, a formal statement of intention signed under oath in the presence of a solicitor.

---

**SKBLAW**

FAMILY LAW  
SPECIALISTS

THE  
ACADEMY

# Children aged 16 or 17 Years Old

Children who are aged at least 16 can choose to change their name by themselves. They will still need to provide consent for their names to be changed and then complete either a deed poll or statutory declaration of name change.

---

**SKBLAW**

FAMILY LAW  
SPECIALISTS

THE  
ACADEMY

# What if both parents don't agree to the name change?

Everybody parental responsibility need to agree to the name change. If only one parent has parental responsibility, they do not need the other parent's agreement to change the child's name.

If parents are unable to agree, you will need to make a court application. Book your free 15 minute consultation with SKB Law's family law team on 01274 727373.

---

**SKBLAW**

FAMILY LAW  
SPECIALISTS

THE  
ACADEMY

# What if one parent is absent?

You do not need the consent of an absent parent.

However, the parent seeking to change the child's name, should take reasonable steps to contact the absent parent. Evidence of these steps may need to be provided when changing a name by deed poll.

---

**SKBLAW**

FAMILY LAW  
SPECIALISTS

THE  
ACADEMY

We offer a fixed fee service and can  
prepare your documents  
within a week.

Contact our family law team on  
01274 727373 to book your  
appointment.

---

**SKBLAW**

FAMILY LAW  
SPECIALISTS

THE  
ACADEMY

# SKB Law

family law,  
done differently.

---

**SKBLAW**

FAMILY LAW  
SPECIALISTS

THE  
ACADEMY

[www.skblawfirm.co.uk](http://www.skblawfirm.co.uk)