



Natasha Harris
Acting Governor



ASCENSION

No. 5 of 2026

Enacted.....15 April 2026
Date of Commencement.....1 May 2026
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AN ORDINANCE

to amend the Child Welfare Ordinance 2011 to provide further circumstances in which a child's biological father acquires parental responsibility for a child.

Enacted by the Governor after consultation with the Island Council of Ascension

Citation and commencement

1. (1) This Ordinance may be cited as the Child Welfare (Amendment) Ordinance 2026.
- (2) This Ordinance comes into force on 1 May 2026.

Amendment of the Child Welfare Ordinance 2011

2. The Child Welfare Ordinance 2011 is amended as follows.
3. In section 10(1), after paragraph (a) insert—
“(aa) the biological father acquires parental responsibility for the child upon becoming registered as the child’s father under—
(i) section 10(1) of the St Helena Births and Deaths (Registration) Ordinance, 1853 (and under this provision as applied to births in Ascension and Tristan Da Cunha);
(ii) section 6 of the Registration Ordinance 1949 (Falklands);

- (iii) section 10(1)(a), (b) or (c) and section 10A(1) of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953 (UK);
- (iv) sections 18(1)(a), (b)(i) or (c), 18(2)(b) and 20(1)(a) of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965;
- (v) article 14(3)(a), (b) or (c) of the Births and Deaths Registration (Northern Ireland) Order 1976;
- (vi) section 10 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1992 (South Africa);

Explanatory Note

(This note is not part of the Ordinance)

This Ordinance amends the Child Welfare Ordinance 2011 to provide further circumstances in which a child's biological father acquires parental responsibility for a child.