# **Welcome**Family Mediation



You will soon attend your Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting (MIAM).

Thank you for taking the step to explore the option of Mediation.



### MIAM - What to expect?

**The Mediator** will aim to gain a clear understanding of your current situation and provide you with useful information to help you move forward.

**You will** have the opportunity to think about whether joint mediation feels like the right step for you and ask your mediator any questions you might have regarding your situation and the Mediation process in general.

#### What is Mediation?

- A process to help you and your family move forward as amicably as possible
- A place to receive legal information regarding your children, finances, divorce and court proceedings
- A safe and impartial environment
- A service when you need support and guidance

Our Mediators abide by professional codes of conduct and adhere to the Family Mediation Council's four main principles of Mediation.

These principles are;

- confidentiality
- impartiality
- voluntariness
- · decisions remaining your own

Click for <u>additional</u> <u>information articles.</u>

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#### **Mediation Vs Court proceedings**

- Legal representation for court is more expensive than attending mediation
- Arrangements through Mediation are more likely to be stuck to
- · Going through court is more stressful and anxiety inducing
- Mediation is child and family focused
- The court process is longer

\*Please note court proceedings are of course sometimes necessary and the right choice for you or your family.

We can help you discuss this in your

Recent Procedure Rule changes in Family Law mean that Mediation is strongly encouraged. We feel it is important to let you know that if you do attend at court for family matters, they may choose to adjourn to give you time to attend an alternative way of resolving your dispute, such as mediation. You will also be required to complete an FM5 form explaining why the dispute could not be resolved outside of court.\*

#### **Cancellation policy**

If you need to cancel or rearrange an appointment, please give 48 hours notice from the time of your appointment.

(Working days, weekend not included).

## If you are paying for your sessions yourself:

- For appointment changes inside of 2 working days you will not receive your deposit back and you will be required to pay a deposit again to re-book.
  - £35 deposit for MIAM £50 deposit for joint sessions.
- For appointment changes with more than 2 working days notice, we will be happy to help you re-book the appointment and transfer your deposit over.

Thank you for choosing our service, we are looking forward to working with you.

#### Things to note

- Please set the time aside to attend your appointment fully.
   The appointment will be cancelled if you have not arrived within 15 minutes of the start time.
- To ensure that we can have open and honest discussions no children over the age of 1 can be present.
- If you are attending online please make sure that you have a good internet connection.

We are committed to protecting and respecting your privacy in line with the EU General Data Protection Regulation 2018 & the Data Protection Act 2018. To learn more about how we keep your personal information secure, view our <u>privacy notices here.</u>

#### For enquiries, to cancel or reschedule:



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