



FAMILY MATTERS MEDIATE LIMITED

USEFUL WEBSITES

FAMILY MEDIATION

Mediation is an excellent way for separating or divorcing couples to make decisions about finances/and or care of the children. It is quick and cost effective and you can make decisions about your future. There is lots of information available in the rest of the website www.familymattersmediate.co.uk

Family Matters is approved by **Legal Aid Agency** to provide legal aid. You can find about mediation and all aspects of separation and divorce is <https://www.gov.uk/legal-aid>

Family Matters, who and where we are can be found at <https://maps.org.uk/en/about-us/who-we-are>

There is a lot of useful information at <https://www.advicenow.org.uk/divorce-and-separation>

FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

CAFCASS has a helpful website for children and families involved in legal proceedings www.cafcass.gov.uk

Separated parents information programme handbook <https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/grown-ups/parents-and-carers/divorce-and-separation/separated-parents-information-programme/>

Cafcass parenting plan <https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/grown-ups/parents-and-carers/divorce-and-separation/parenting-plan/>

Advice and help for parents following separation and effects on children

www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-for-separated-parents-children-and-the-family-courts-cb7/guide-for-separated-parents-children-and-the-family-courts-cb7

Family lives website help, support and information of all sorts for parents and step-parents
www.familylives.org.uk 24 hour helpline for parents 0808 800 2222

Centre for Separated Families online and e-mail support for parents and other people affected by separation of parenting apart www.separatedfamilies.info

See it differently A series of thought provoking videos to help parents make different choices
www.seeitdifferently.org/

FOR LEGAL ADVICE AND INFORMATION

This is a website set up by the government www.gov.uk/separation-divorce which has comprehensive information about many areas including legal issues.

Sorting out Finances on Divorce - The government have published a useful guide to reaching decisions about finances following the decisions to divorce. It gives clear explanations of the ways in which decisions can be made www.judiciary.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/fjc-financial-needs-april-16-final.pdf

The government website www.gov.uk also has a lot of information relating to divorce and separation, and you can work your way through the process, it also has information about court fees and downloadable forms etc.

Legal Aid is not generally available in family cases; however, you can access a telephone legal advice service **Legal Advice Helpline** on 0845 345 4345 (you will be assessed for Legal Aid).

Resolution is an organisation of family lawyers helping families reach solutions. Their website www.resolution.org.uk

IF YOU WANT TO APPLY TO COURT

Helpful leaflets from HM Courts Service **Guide for Separated Parents: Children and the Family Courts (CB7)** and **Making an Application – Children and the Family Courts (CB1)** can be obtained from court offices or online at www.justice.gov.uk/about/hmcts.

Court Fees for making an application are currently £232.00. For those on a low income who would struggle to pay the fee and the meet the appropriate criteria, there is system known as the remission system. Form **EX160a** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fees-in-the-civil-and-family-courts-main-fees-ex50/family-court-fees-ex50>



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IF YOU WANT TO REPRESENT YOURSELF

This can be daunting but there is a lot of help around including the Court Leaflet CB1 above.

Guide to Representing Yourself in Court is very useful, however this is quite long and Family Law is near the end www.thejusticegap.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Bar-Council-guide.pdf P44 onwards and <https://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/for-the-public/info-for-people-representing-themselves-in-court.html> Advice now has a good section on their website <https://www.advicenow.org.uk/family-court>. They have a film about it www.advicenow.org.uk/guides/representing-yourself-family-court-film.

GOV.UK website www.gov.uk/represent-yourself-in-court

Support through court charity - National helpline 03000 810 006 and website www.supportthroughcourt.org/

IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT DEBT

The **Money Advice Service** is a very helpful free service with information and advice on financial matters including after separation www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk. Helpline 0300 500 5000 (Mon – Fri 8am – 6pm).

National Debt line provide a free and confidential helpline about dealing with debt 0808 808 4000. They also have a useful website nationaldebtlne.org/

Step Change - free debt advice www.stepchange.org/ and call 0800 138 1111 (Monday to Friday, 8am - 6pm).

OTHER INFORMATION FOR SEPARATING PARENTS

The **CAB Advice Website** contains much information www.citizensadvice.org.uk/family/how-to-separate1/deciding-what-to-do-when-you-separate/

Child Maintenance Options has good information about options for child support and other aspects of separation www.cmoptions.org. They also have a helpline 0800 988 0988.

Wikivorce this website contains lots of information and help about all aspects of divorce and separation <https://www.wikivorce.com/divorce/>

Relate website www.relate.org.uk has a lot of good information on relationship issues.

Shared Parents Information provides helpful information on shared parenting after divorce or separation www.spig.clara.net

Gingerbread provides fact sheets about aspects of being a separated parent and some good legal information www.gingerbread.org.uk

Families Need Fathers website www.fnf.org.uk is full of information relevant to Dads and shared parenting. They also have a helpline 0300 0300 363

Dads Unlimited offer support and help for separated fathers who are experiencing difficulties <https://www.dadsunltd.org.uk/>

Mothers Apart from their Children is a helpful website for Mums <https://www.matchmothers.org/>

Rights of Women website explains residence and contact orders in clear language and also provides many other services including free telephone legal advice for women www.row.org.uk

The Grandparents Association provides help, support and advice for Grandparents and their families [The Grandparents Association \(rbkc.gov.uk\)](http://TheGrandparentsAssociation(rbkc.gov.uk))

Language Matters provides guidance and resources to help families navigate separation with less conflict and a focus on children's wellbeing <https://www.familysolutionsgroup.co.uk/language-matters/>

HELP AND ADVICE

National Domestic Violence Helpline 0808 2000 247 provide a 24-hour support and information helpline for women experiencing domestic violence. They also have a website www.domesticviolencehelpline.org.uk.

Men's Advice Line www.mensadvice.org.uk

Women's Aid <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/>



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Respect Phoneline for perpetrators who want to stop www.respectphoneline.org.uk

Galop is the UK's LGBT+ anti-abuse charity. They work with and for LGBT+ victims and survivors of interpersonal abuse and violence for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people <https://galop.org.uk/> Call [0800 999 5428](tel:08009995428)