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Contact us

You can contact us by telephone, e-mail or via our on-line enquiry form to let us have your details and the details of your partner/ex-partner. We'll then contact a specialist family mediator who will arrange a Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting (MIAM) for you and your partner/ex-partner to attend.

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MIAM meeting

At the MIAM meeting you'll find out more about mediation and whether it would be suitable in your case. The meeting will last approximately an hour and will cover: The costs involved, eligibility for public funding or legally aided mediation, domestic violence, social service involvement, health issues and the type of mediation best suited to you.

3

Is mediation appropriate?

If you and your partner/ex-partner don't agree on mediation or the mediator feels it's not appropriate in your case then they'll issue the relevant form to enable you to pursue matters through your solicitor and/or the court. If you do agree and the mediator feels it's appropriate, then they will set a date for your first mediation appointment. You'll both be asked to sign the agreement to mediate together with the mediator, setting out everybody's responsibilities during the process.

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Ready for the next step?

We've tried our best to illustrate the normal stages involved in mediation – but please note that every case is different.

Agreement

At the end of the case the mediator will prepare an agreement which records the mutually acceptable proposals for settlement of matters discussed. For financial matters this will include a financial summary which can be used in subsequent court proceedings should mediation not resolve issues between you. In cases involving children the agreement will detail the parenting plan discussed.

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Mediation sessions

The mediation sessions will take place in a relaxed, open and non-confrontational environment allowing you to talk things through in the presence of the trained mediator. If appropriate they will be able to offer to carry out the mediation sessions with you and the other party in separate rooms (shuttle sessions). At the start of the mediation you'll both be encouraged to say what you both want and need to discuss. The mediator will gather information, help explore options and discuss settlement proposals with you both jointly helping you to arrive at practical and mutually agreed solutions. Generally the process will involve 4 – 6 sessions depending on the issues involved. You're free to seek legal advice from your solicitors at any point during the process.