

Family mediation

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DONCASTER
FAMILY
MEDIATION

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
ATHERTON GODFREY SOLICITORS



All the support you need

Helping you reach solutions

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The end of a relationship can be a turbulent time, and making solid practical arrangements for the future can bring much needed stability for everyone involved.

Atherton Godfrey's family mediation service, Doncaster Family Mediation, can help you and your partner to work out these arrangements together, and to reach solutions which you both regard as fair.

We can help you resolve issues relating to property and financial affairs, and questions about living and contact arrangements for your children, in a way that is practical, calm and open.

We have years of experience in helping couples that are separating to understand all the options available to them. Our mediator will make sure that you are both able to express your needs and understand each other's wishes.

By talking matters through together with your mediator, difficult misunderstandings can often be avoided and the process of separating can be made significantly less stressful. Mediation can be the first step to a happier future.

For more information or to discuss in confidence how mediation could help you, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Telephone 01302 308900

www.athertongodfrey.co.uk

A guide to our Family Mediation service

Mediation is all about good communication and we believe in always keeping clients well informed. Our guide answers some of the most frequently asked questions and outlines just what you can expect from our service.

What is mediation?

Mediation is a way of helping separating and separated couples to consider all the practical arrangements that must be made – regarding property, finance and children – and to reach workable agreements. It involves talking through the issues with an experienced mediator who will help you to find fair and balanced solutions.

Mediation can be useful at any stage in the relationship breakdown, or even long after separation if there are still issues to be resolved. People from all kinds of different backgrounds and relationships have benefited from mediation.

Is mediation like counselling?

Mediation is not counselling. If our clients want help in trying to repair their relationship or in dealing with emotional or psychological issues, the mediator would recommend that they see a suitable counsellor or therapist. We can help you to receive that extra support should you wish.

Neither is mediation arbitration. In other words the mediator does not have the power to settle disputes by imposing a particular outcome on you. The mediator will help you to reach your own solutions and has no judicial capacity or power. Mediation complements independent legal advice, it does not replace it.

How long will it take?

The number of mediation sessions required will depend on the issues involved. Three or four sessions is about right for many separating couples but more or fewer may be needed.

Sessions generally last 1½ hours and take place at whatever intervals may be agreed. You do not need to commit to a fixed number of sessions and can decide at the end of each whether or not you wish to continue.

Will I have to commit myself to an agreement during mediation?

No, you will never be asked to reach a final and binding agreement without first reviewing with your solicitor what has been proposed. But the role of mediation is to avoid ongoing legal disputes and find solutions that are acceptable to you both.

Does mediation work?

Mediation helps. Whether it works depends on the particular case and the couple involved. It has been used successfully by many people for many years and is increasingly popular with couples that would prefer to find their own solutions as amicably as possible. We regard mediation as a better alternative.

Atherton Godfrey provides all the support you need on legal matters

- Commercial law
- Clinical negligence
- Employment law
- Family law
- Family mediation
- Personal injury
- Residential property



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