

The Mediation Process

Mediation could help if you are:-

- Married, cohabiting or in a civil partnership
- Already separated but still need to resolve your finances and/or the arrangements about your children
- Step-parents, grandparents, or other family members wanting to agree on arrangements for looking after, and seeing children

Before any joint mediation meeting takes place, the Mediator will meet each party separately at an initial assessment. This assessment meeting provides an opportunity to find out more about mediation and, also, for the Mediator to individually assess your specific case and whether it is suitable for mediation.

Once the Mediator has assessed the case, assuming that you are both happy to proceed the Mediator will arrange joint meetings for you to participate in. The joint meetings will continue until all issues are resolved. If financial issues are involved, generally there will be between three to four joint meetings, with each meeting lasting around 90 minutes. If the mediation is about arrangements regarding children generally two joint meetings are involved lasting around 90 minutes each.

Once an agreement has been reached, the Mediator, if requested will draw up a record of your understanding in an agreed format.

Any documents produced by the Mediator during the process can be given to your solicitors who will provide legal advice throughout.

About our Mediator

Butcher & Barlow's mediation service, B & B Mediation Services, was established in 2012. Its aim is to facilitate an amicable separation.

Our Qualified Mediator, [Caroline Cockill-Guy](#), is a member of the Law Society Family Mediation Panel. The Law Society's accreditation scheme's aim is to help the public to identify family mediators who have been assessed for competence, and to promote to the public those mediators who have been accredited by the Law Society. The scheme is also subject to independent quality assurance.

To discuss any of the issues above or to arrange your initial assessment, please contact Caroline Cockill-Guy on [01606 47523](tel:0160647523) or ccockillguy@butcher-barlow.co.uk,

B & B Mediation Services can meet with you at any of our offices.