

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

Our Mediator, Caroline Cockill-Guy, qualified with **Resolution** in 2011 and remains a member of this organisation of family justice professionals. Resolution members commit to a Code of Practice that promotes resolving family problems in a way that minimises conflict and considers the needs of the whole family.

“Almost always, problems are best solved when people talk. Sometimes a helping hand is necessary in getting communications flowing. This is where mediation comes in and as a Resolution trained Mediator clients can be assured that my approach to mediation will be impartial and result focused.”

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.