

Better to talk

How often do you see friends and family becoming embroiled in bitter arguments about their children or money following separation. “If only they could sit down and talk”, you think. Unfortunately it’s never easy when hurt, disappointment, anger and resentment seem to take over. Too often arguments escalate and litigation ensues, leaving lasting emotional and financial scars for all concerned. Sadly, it is the children who end up suffering most as a result of their parents’ arguments.

Over the past year the family Courts in England and Wales have been encouraging couples to try and resolve their disputes in mediation, before making application to the Court in relation to either their financial arrangements or their children. Mediation offers separated and separating couples the opportunity working with a trained mediator to make plans for themselves and their children. Better outcomes are achieved for children and parents when problems are discussed and compromises agreed without the pressure or expense of litigation.

You can contact family mediation services direct, or by referral from you solicitor who will usually encourage you consider mediation as a way of making arrangements on separation or divorce. Your initial appointment will allow you the opportunity of meeting a mediator on your own, and of finding out more about the mediation process, before committing to it. Mediation Services which have the Mediation Quality Mark and are contracted to the Community Legal Service provide mediation free to those financially eligible for legal aid.

Nicholas von Benzon
accredited family mediator and director of
Cheltenham Mediation Services Limited
01242 633773

Version 2 - 205 words

Better to talk

How often do you see friends and family becoming embroiled in bitter arguments about their children or money following separation. "If only they could sit down and talk", you think. Unfortunately it's never easy when hurt, disappointment, anger and resentment seem to take over. Too often arguments escalate and litigation ensues, leaving lasting emotional and financial scars for all concerned.

Over the past year the family Courts in England and Wales have been encouraging couples to try and resolve their disputes in mediation, before making application to the Court in relation to either their financial arrangements or their children. Mediation offers separated and separating couples the opportunity working with a trained mediator to make plans for themselves and their children. Better outcomes are achieved for children and parents when problems are discussed and compromises agreed without the pressure or expense of litigation.

You can contact family mediation services direct. Your initial appointment will allow you the opportunity of meeting a mediator on your own, and of finding out more about the mediation process, before committing to it. Mediation Services which have the Mediation Quality Mark and are contracted to the Community Legal Service provide mediation free to those financially eligible for legal aid.

Nicholas von Benzon
accredited family mediator and director of
Cheltenham Mediation Services Limited
01242 633773