

Boys & Maughan Family Fact Sheet - ALTERNATIVES TO COURT HEARINGS

Most people going through a divorce or separation would rather avoid having to go to court if possible. If you are thinking about divorcing or separating from your partner you will have lots of questions about the legal process and about your rights.



Family

What is mediation?

Mediators are trained to help people resolve disputes. A mediator will meet with you and your partner together and will identify those issues you can't agree on and help you to try and reach agreement. Mediators are neutral and will not take sides in any dispute. They are not advisors and will not give advice on your individual position to either of you and will usually recommend that you each obtain legal advice alongside the mediation process.

More detailed information about mediation can be found at:

http://www.resolution.org.uk/editorial.asp?page_id=54

What is collaborative law?

The collaborative family law process is a relatively new way of dealing with family disputes. Each person appoints their own lawyer but instead of conducting negotiations between you and your partner by letter or phone you meet together to work things out face to face.

Each of you will have your lawyer will be by your side throughout the entire process and therefore you will benefit from legal advice as you go. The aim of collaborative law is to resolve family disputes without going to court.

More detailed information about collaborative law can be found at:

http://www.resolution.org.uk/editorial.asp?page_id=53



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