AV Trinity

Chartered Financial Planners
Intelligent Independent Financial Advice

What is Mediation?

What is Family Mediation?

Mediation helps families to reach decisions about what should happen after divorce and at the same time gives the couple a place to discuss their differences at their own pace.

It is an alternative to the more traditional legal approach of instructing lawyers or going to court. It gives the couple the opportunity to speak frankly and openly to each other and to express their feelings and frustrations in the presence of a professionally trained and impartial mediator.

Mediation is ideally suited to families where younger children are involved as it supports the view that parents are the ones most likely to know and understand what is best for their own children and gives the opportunity for the parents to make the decisions rather than an “outsider”.

Family mediation has a number of core principals :

- Both partners must agree to participate as the whole process is **voluntary.**
- Courts now expect divorcing families to try mediation before moving to a more formalised and traditional court process – but no one can be forced into mediation
- Also it is confidential and any agreements made within the mediation process can’t be referred to in future legal proceedings
- The mediator is impartial and will not favour one side over the other. Whilst the mediator can be a valuable source of advice and information, it has to be remembered that they are not able to dispense formal legal advice.

In conclusion

The end result is very much in the hands of the couple involved and the mediator is there to assist couples in reaching their own palatable agreement. Hopefully agreement WILL be reached and once this is done it should be made legally binding through a Consent Order by the solicitors and approved by the Court.

Please contact us

01892 612500 or 0800 668 1898 (Freephone)

info@avtrinity.com

www.avtrinity.com

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All information has been prepared with care to ensure accuracy and is based upon our understanding of legislation and HMRC practice, which can be subject to change. This is intended to provide information only and should not be considered as advice.

AV Trinity Limited
77 Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 8BS UK - 01892 612500 – www.avtrinity.com
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