

Family Mediation

Helping you to find the best way forward



WHAT IS FAMILY MEDIATION?

Family mediation offers a forum for the discussion and resolution of the issues that arise from a relationship breakdown, from financial matters to child arrangements. Mediation is voluntary and empowers you to make decisions for your family together, rather than having decisions imposed on you within the court process. Traditional family mediation usually involves one mediator working with a couple in one room to help them make decisions for the future. Mediators can't usually keep confidences and there is an emphasis on transparency throughout the process. The mediator may discuss involving other professionals in the mediation meetings, such as financial advisors, independent social workers and family consultants.

There are variations on the traditional model of mediation that can be considered and sometimes participants will move between or use a combination of the various models.

HYBRID MEDIATION

Hybrid mediation might be suggested if your situation is complex or if there are high levels of conflict. Usually the parties' lawyers will participate in the meetings and the mediator is permitted to hold confidences, only sharing information that they have permission to disclose.

SHUTTLE MEDIATION

Sometimes it is not appropriate for the parties to meet face to face, so instead the mediator will place them in separate rooms and 'shuttle' between them to try to find a resolution.

CO-MEDIATION

Sometimes there will be a benefit from two mediators working with the parties together as a team. Often the two mediators will be from different backgrounds, for example a lawyer mediator might work with a mediator from a financial or therapeutic background.

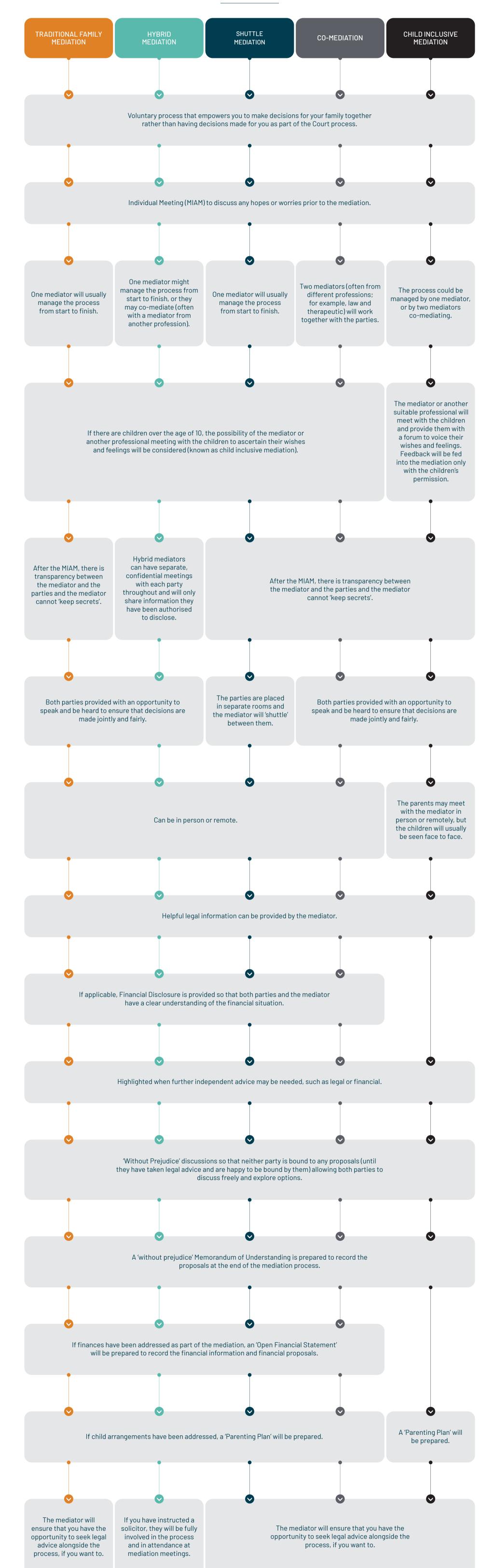
CHILD INCLUSIVE MEDIATION

Sometimes it will be agreed that the children should have the opportunity to voice their wishes and feelings. In this situation either the mediator or another suitable professional will meet with the children and then feedback to the parents, with the children's permission.

Mediation can lead to or complement other ways of resolving issues, such as working with family consultants, early neutral evaluations, collaborative law or arbitration. It can even be used alongside Court proceedings if the participants want to try to find a solution together rather than wait for a decision from a Judge.

WHICH MEDIATION STYLE IS RIGHT FOR ME?







MEET OUR MEDIATORS











Edward Cooke

Grace Parker-White

Lauren Guy

Michelle Lewis

Hannah Rogers

For more information on our mediation services, view our <u>mediation pages</u>, or if you need further advice or information, please do not hesitate to contact one of our specialist family law solicitors and mediators.



Chilgrove | Head Office

Edward Cooke Family Law 7 Chilgrove Business Centre

Chilgrove Chichester West Sussex P018 9HU

01243 769001

info@ecfamilylaw.co.uk

Briahton & Hove

Edward Cooke Family Law

The Dock Hub Wilbury Villas Hove

East Sussex BN3 6AH

01273 658012

info@ecfamilylaw.co.uk

Farnham

Edward Cooke Family Law

Cheyenne House West Street Farnham Surrey GU9 7E0

01252 239012

info@ecfamilylaw.co.uk

Also by appointment at Chichester and Petersfield

ectamilylaw.co.uk

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