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FAMILY LAW

# Family Mediation

Our team, supporting you in navigating  
separation and divorce



# Meet our Mediator

## Emma Post

Partner, Family Solicitor  
& Mediator

Emma is a Resolution trained 'all issues' mediator and is also trained in Advanced Hybrid Mediation

Emma can mediate issues in divorce and separation including children and financial issues.

Emma is a member of the Family Mediation Council working towards accreditation.



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Emma Post is not only an incredibly kind and compassionate individual but also a highly professional expert.

# What is Family Mediation?

Mediation helps couples to discuss the decisions that need to be made concerning arrangements for children and finances. It is focused on achieving resolution and looking to the future.

Decisions will never be imposed, Neither of you can be compelled to agree. You are encouraged to explore ideas and options that work for you.

Above all it is child-focused and helps you both work towards minimising the impact of divorce and separation.

There are various models of mediation and one or more may be appropriate for your circumstances.



It is worth considering the different types of mediation and what might work for you with the guidance of your solicitor or in your Pre-Mediation Meeting with your chosen mediator.

Mediators do not give advice nor do they make decisions. Mediators can provide legal information and can share the benefit of options others have considered, neutral information and provide guidance and signposting.

# Models of Mediation

## Traditional

One mediator working with a couple/the participants in person or virtually.

## Solicitor Inclusive

Each parties lawyers, or third party professional participate in meetings.

## Hybrid

Particularly suitable to complex or high conflict cases. The mediator can hold confidences and can only share what is permitted. Lawyers often attend to support clients.

## Shuttle

Usually in cases where it is not appropriate for parties to mediate face to face, They will be in separate rooms, the mediator will move between.

## Child Inclusive Mediation

Where possible and agreed, the mediator or another agreed and suitable professional, will meet with the children to ascertain their wishes and feelings and with permission, feed back to the parents.

## Co-Mediation

Two mediators working together as a team, often with different backgrounds to compliment each other i.e. therapeutic or financial.

# What can you expect?

## Step 1 – Introductory Calls

We offer (and recommend) short introductory call with each of you. This would usually be 5-10 minutes where we can answer any immediate questions about the process itself or to get started. It is important you both speak to the proposed mediators so you get a 'feel' for whether you feel comfortable working with them.

## Step 2 – Individual Meetings

If you wish to explore mediation, it is requirement to have an individual meeting with each person.

This is an initial meeting between each party individually and the mediator. You will also hear this referred to as a 'MIAM' (Mediation Information Assessment Meeting). This is a confidential meeting where the mediator will discuss the mediation process together with other non-court dispute resolution options, your circumstances, and determine whether mediation is suitable. It's a safe space to ask questions and consider mediation before committing to moving forward.

## Step 3 – Joint Meetings

As a general rule of thumb, the mediation process takes between 3-6 sessions depending on the issues or extent of any agreement/common ground.

The process is flexible and sometimes it can conclude quicker or take longer. Mediation sessions usually are about 1.5 to 2 hours as a maximum unless otherwise agreed. If using the hybrid model, then it is possible to arrange for longer sessions such as ½ day to 1 day depending on the issues.

## Format of individual and joint sessions

We offer individual meetings and joint sessions either online or in person at our Richmond Office. The best model for you will be discussed at the outset.

## Being accompanied by your family solicitor

Participants usually attend both MIAMs and mediation without their lawyers. However, bringing lawyers into the process can sometimes be useful. It is common place in the hybrid model and in the more complex matters.

## Costs

It varies from mediator to mediator. Mediators usually charge an hourly rate for the meetings and preparation/follow up work. Unless otherwise agreed costs are usually shared between the parties.

## Our fees

Please fee free to arrange an introductory call and we will discuss our fees.

# What else?

## The principles of mediation?

The core principles of mediation are that:

- each participant comes to mediation voluntarily
- the mediator will keep the information shared, confidential (save in exceptional circumstances) and discussions can not be referred to in court proceedings
- the mediator is neutral and will not take sides
- the mediator's role is to facilitate discussion, it is for you to find a mutually agreeable solution

## What are the benefits of mediation?

There are many benefits to mediation, especially when compared to the court process, including:

- Flexibility
- Communication
- Privacy
- Speed

Mediation doesn't suit all circumstances but it is certainly worth exploring to find out more.

## How do you choose a mediator?

If you have a solicitor it is always worth asking if they have anyone in mind who they would recommend, or you can search for mediators using [resolution.org](https://www.resolution.org.uk), or [familymediationcouncil.org.uk](https://www.familymediationcouncil.org.uk). Take advantage of introductory calls.

# How else can we help?

We offer tailored advice and support in the following areas:

- Separation & divorce
- Child arrangements
- Domestic and international relocation
- Grandparent's rights
- Financial issues
- Unmarried couples
- Nuptial Agreements
- Financial provision for children
- Domestic abuse
- Mediation services
- Wills & Probate
- Powers of Attorney





# Want to find out more ?

## Contact us today

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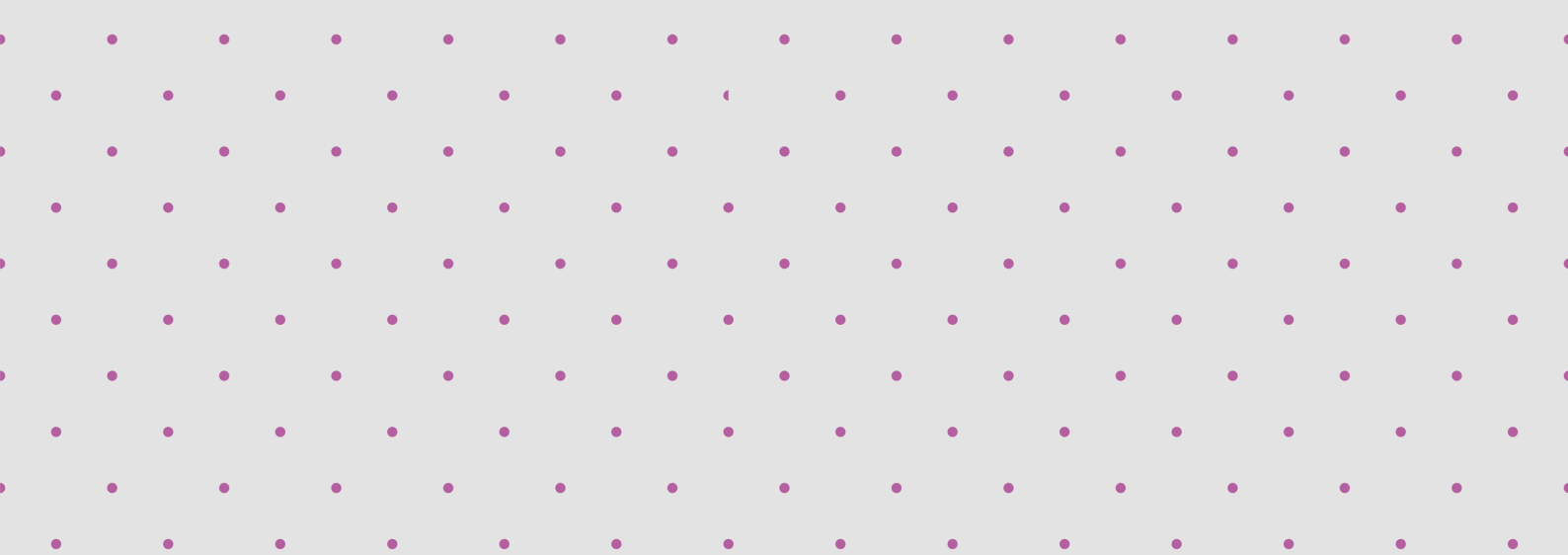
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