

Our mediator



Esther Evans is an Associate and Chartered Legal Executive and has worked in family law for over 15 years. She is a fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives and trained as a mediator with Family Mediators Association as well as being a member of the Family Mediators Association. Esther has also trained to work with children during mediation, if both parents consent.

Appointments are available in Telford, Shrewsbury, Newtown, Oswestry and Welshpool.

Child-Inclusive Mediation

Child-inclusive mediation provides opportunities for children and young people to have their voices heard directly during the process of mediation, to help them feel respected and listened to.

At the child's request, our trained mediator can also assist parents or carers to understand and take account of the child's messages and/or suggestions regarding decisions and arrangements for their care.



Family
Mediation
Service

21 St Mary's Street, Shrewsbury SY1 1ED
Telephone **01743 280 158**
Email **mediation@wmlaw.co.uk**

You can also contact us via:
www.wacemorgan.co.uk



Family
Mediation
Service

Family Mediation Service



Flexible and cost effective
alternative to court proceedings

Our skilled and neutral mediator can help you reach a mutually acceptable, negotiated agreement.

Who is it for?

Couples who are ending their relationship, whether married or not. Also those who have separated or divorced and wish to work out new agreements for changing circumstances.

What issues can it cover?

Arrangements for your children - where they are to live and how often they are to spend time with each parent, also your house, pensions, maintenance or other financial issues.

Is it binding?

The agreement is written down in a summary of proposals. It is not binding at the start but can be made into a binding consent order by the court.

Is it confidential?

Yes, and completely independent and private. There are very few exceptions to our rule of confidentiality.

Do you need solicitors?

Mediation is complementary to the court process. Either or both of you may decide you do not wish to see solicitors. An important aspect of mediation is to frame a settlement that the court will approve. The mediator will encourage you to see your solicitors about the legal aspects of your settlement and about incorporating appropriate parts of it into a court order.

Why mediate?

- **Cost and speed.** Litigation in the courts can be expensive and time consuming. Through mediation we can help you find quicker, cost-effective solutions to disputes. The faster the dispute is resolved, the lower the cost to the whole family, both financially and emotionally.
- **Flexibility.** The court has less flexibility when it comes to orders about children and finances. Mediation allows you to reach creative solutions that work for you and your children.
- **Control.** Mediation allows you to retain control of your dispute and make decisions for yourself. An unfavourable outcome through the court may affect both of you financially and emotionally.
- **Relationships.** A dispute can disrupt on-going relationships, sour attitudes and undermine efficiency and effectiveness. Mediation allows you to retain or return to productive and co-operative relationships which are particularly relevant and helpful for your children. It may even enhance working relationships.

What will it involve?

You will be offered an initial appointment. If you agree to go forward we set up a meeting to start to find common ground and work out solutions.

How long will it take?

Meetings normally last no more than 1½ hours. The number required depends on the extent and nature of the issues to be resolved.

How much will it cost?

We charge on an hourly basis. Typically, the cost of full mediation can be a tenth of the cost of litigation. We have a contract with the Legal Services Commission and Legal Aid may be available to cover the cost of mediation.