

Reasons to use the Mooney Everett mediation service

- our mediator is FMCA accredited to conduct Mediation Information & Assessment Meetings (MIAMs)
- our mediator is a practicing family law solicitor with current knowledge and understanding of family law procedure and legal developments;
- our mediator is a Resolution member and Family Law Advanced Panel specialist;
- we helped pilot alternative dispute resolution in Merseyside and our family law services boast collaborative lawyers as well as experienced solicitors and mediators; and
- we offer appointments at a choice of locations at our offices in Ormskirk or Liverpool, or at another appropriate venue.

We hope that you choose Mooney Everett to help you resolve your family issues through mediation.

Feel free to pass on this information to the other person (via your solicitor if necessary) in advance to help them consider some of the benefits that mediation can offer too.

What you can expect:

- ✓ Direct mediator contact
- ✓ Same day response
- ✓ No hidden costs
- ✓ Open Saturday morning
- ✓ Choice of location



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What is mediation?

Mediation can be a very positive experience, but you may naturally be anxious about what to expect. That is why we have put this guide together to explain how the mediation process works.

Mediation is a process in which an impartial third person (the mediator) assists members of a family to resolve disputes relating to children, finances or property arising from separation or divorce.

Why mediate?

- mediation has a very high success rate;
- it is often cheaper and quicker than going to court;
- you look at the practicalities of your family situation together;
- you can explore options without being bound by them;
- you control the rate of progress and the outcome, not the court;
- it can work with or alongside the legal process and can be stopped at any stage;
- most people who try mediation feel that they have had some real benefit from the experience;
- it can keep lines of communication open which is especially important if you have children; and
- you may have to attend a Mediation Information Assessment Meeting (MIAM) before some family court processes can be started.

What does mediation cost?

At Mooney Everett, we offer a fixed price mediation service so that you know what the costs will be from the very outset. The costs can be shared between you or paid by one person by agreement.

What can I expect?

- mediation can last from 2-6 joint sessions;
- a calm, neutral, civil environment that encourages discussion;
- you will not be left alone in a room together, communal areas and side rooms will be provided if breaks are needed;
- in some instances we can mediate with you each in separate rooms;
- you control the process - the mediation can be stopped at any point; and
- consistency of your chosen mediator throughout the process from start to finish.

 **Contact us:**
01695 574 111
www.mooneyeverett.co.uk
Appointments can be arranged out of office hours.

Mediation Information & Assessment Meeting (MIAM)

This initial meeting can only be conducted by a Family Mediation Council Accredited mediator to assess whether mediation is right for you and your family. Together you will work out how many sessions you may need and agree the costs.

Series of mediation sessions

The mediator will help you set the agenda and will maintain a neutral role, offering guidance but not legal advice. Discussions are not legally binding and remain confidential and cannot later be used in any court proceedings.

Moving forward

At the end of the process, the mediator can write up any proposals or conclusions reached. You are recommended to take these to your solicitor who will give independent advice on the proposals and draft them into a legally binding agreement, if appropriate.

