

## Will I Have To Pay?

We offer Legal Aid for those who are eligible.

At your initial MIAM appointment our mediator will carry out an assessment, which is based on your income, outgoings and any capital you may have.

The assessment will be carried out whilst you are present and you will be informed instantaneously whether or not you are eligible for Legal Aid.

If you are Not Eligible for Legal Aid we charge a fixed fee for:

- Mediation Information and Assessment Meetings (MIAM)
- Mediation Appointments
- Summaries

Please Note: If ONE party is eligible for Legal Aid both parties will receive one joint mediation appointment for free.

## Do I Need a Solicitor?

- You may benefit from obtaining independent legal advice during the process of Mediation.
- Once child and financial arrangements have been proposed through Mediation you may wish for these to be made legally binding.
- A solicitor will turn your confirmed intentions into a consent order (in divorce proceedings) or a separation agreement (if you and the other party are not married).

## We Offer Mediation in the Following Areas:

Ashton  
Bolton  
Bury  
Didsbury  
Manchester City Centre  
Oldham  
Rochdale  
Sale  
Walkden  
Wigan



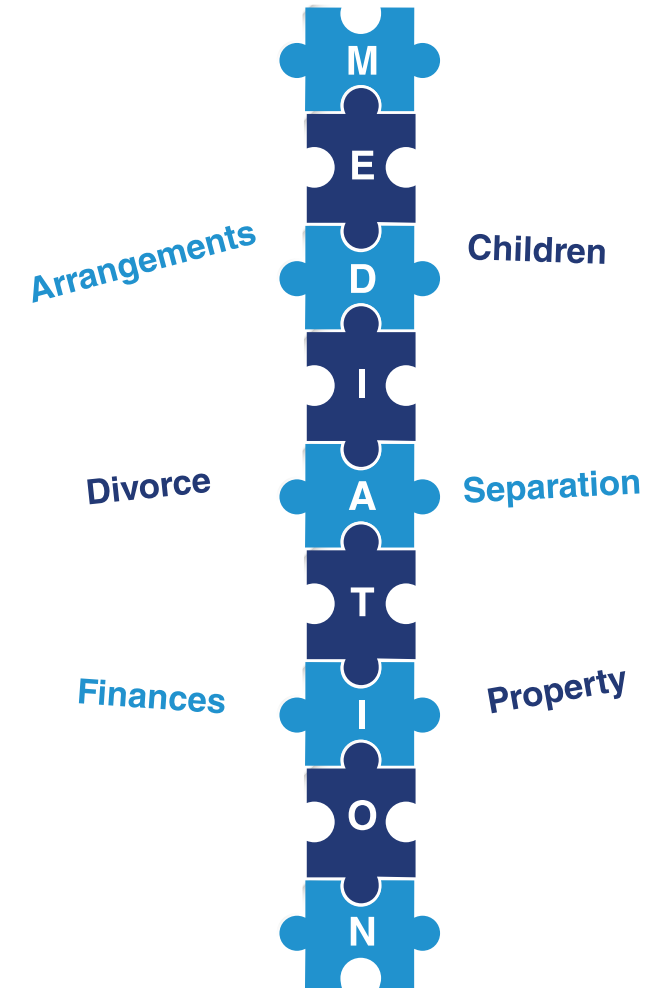
Call: 0161 820 8267

Email: [info@manchesterfms.co.uk](mailto:info@manchesterfms.co.uk)

Fax: 0161 820 4194

[www.manchesterfamilymediationsolutions.co.uk](http://www.manchesterfamilymediationsolutions.co.uk)

18 Bolton Street, Bury, BL9 0LQ



Offering private and legally aided family mediation  
in and around the Greater Manchester area.



## What is Mediation?

- Mediation provides people with the opportunity to resolve issues arising from the breakdown of a relationship together
  - Mediation is a voluntary process
  - The mediator is impartial
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## Who Can Come to Mediation?

- Separated and separating couples
  - Divorced and divorcing couples
  - Parents
  - Extended family members
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## What can be Discussed in Mediation?

- Children arrangements, including:
  - Day to day contact
  - Maintenance
  - School
  - Parental Responsibility
- All financial matters, including:
  - House
  - Mortgage
  - Savings
  - Debt
  - Pensions
  - Businesses

## Our Mediation Process:

### Stage One: Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting (MIAM)

- An appointment for you alone with a family mediator
- During this appointment you can discuss the issues that you would like to resolve in mediation, any concerns that you have, other options that may be available to you and the costs involved
- There is an expectation that an applicant will first attend a MIAM with a Mediator before making an application to the family court.

### Stage Two: Joint Mediation Appointment

- This consists of a series of appointments which you attend with the other person and a family mediator.
- The mediator will work with you both to explore the issues that you would like to resolve, identify and discuss options with the objective of helping you to reach your own solutions.

### Stage Three: Summary

- When mediation has concluded we will draw up a Summary of Proposals and an Open Financial Summary where applicable.

## What are the Benefits of Mediation?

- Provides you with the opportunity to talk and negotiate safely
  - Is an amicable approach to resolving disputes
  - Is usually faster than going through court
  - Focuses on positive communication
  - You both remain in control of the decisions being made
  - It can help you avoid going to court
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## Child Inclusive Mediation:

We are professionally qualified to meet with children to give them the opportunity to discuss with a mediator their wishes and feelings.

This information can then be shared with you both to assist in making arrangements.

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## Shuttle Mediation:

Some cases require what is called a shuttle mediation, this is where the parties sit in separate rooms and the mediator 'shuttles' between the two.

This will be discussed at your MIAM appointment and can be used in cases where domestic violence or other circumstances make it too difficult to be in the same room.