



# COLLABORATIVE LAW

## The better way to resolve family and matrimonial disputes

Recent legislative changes now mean that a referral to Mediation must be made prior to making a financial application on divorce or a contact or residence order application or removing a child from the jurisdiction.

There is however a better option – Collaborative Law.

Collaborative Law is the way to resolve family and matrimonial matters including divorce, separation and parenting disputes. CP Law Solicitors are highly experienced in achieving agreements in relation to various family and matrimonial issues through the Collaborative Law process.

The ethos of Collaborative Law is to resolve issues arising from relationship breakdown in a non-confrontational way through mutual problem solving. The cornerstone of the Collaborative process is that both parties and their lawyers pledge within a contract to work together to negotiate an agreement and will not go through costly court proceedings to do so. This helps to make sure that couples have the best possible chance of an amicable separation and retaining better relations going forward, especially where children are involved.

Collaborative Law offers a less painful way to separate and that helps both parties to focus on the future. Ultimately by keeping divorce and separation cases out of court, the process of divorce or separation is quicker, cheaper and more amicable. Within the process the parties involved, each represented by specially trained lawyers, agree in writing to reach a settlement out of court in a series of meetings.

Lee Pashen, Collaborative Lawyer and Resolution Accredited Specialist at CP Law solicitors explains: ‘One of the key benefits of the Collaborative Law process is that it’s not driven by a timetable imposed by the court. So to a large extent the process can be built around your family’s individual timetable and priorities. The parties can therefore take more control and this enables us to focus on key issues and to find solutions for them. The process is non-confrontational. The issues that need to be resolved are at the heart of the round table meetings and the lawyers and the parties use their combined knowledge and experience to help reach agreements’.

For an informal chat regarding Collaborative Law or any family or matrimonial issue contact Lee Pashen, Collaborative Law Solicitor, directly on 0118 974 9723 or [leep@cplaw.co.uk](mailto:leep@cplaw.co.uk)