

CHILD ARRANGEMENTS PROGRAMME: FLOWCHART

[CAP:X] = reference to relevant paragraph or section in the Child Arrangements Programme

DISPUTE OVER ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN

Cases of Exceptional/Extreme Urgency [CAP:12]
 where injunction/prohibited steps orders are sought, go straight to issue and consider without notice application
 NB: paperwork must be in order

Signposting [CAP:2]
 Seek advice from sortingoutseparation.org.uk, a lawyer or a Dispute Resolution Service

Dispute Resolution Services [CAP:5]
 Parties attend for Mediation/SPIP or other Dispute Resolution Service. Parties to consider Parenting Plan. Self-referral to Contact Centre if required.

Attendance at MIAM [CAP:5.3]
 (Compulsory for Proposed Applicant unless exemption applies. Proposed Respondent notified and encouraged to attend)

Application [CAP:8]
 Form C100 and form C1A (if required) to be completed and submitted to the Court, accompanied by any existing Parenting Plan if available (Case will NOT be issued if paperwork not in order)

Allocation/Gatekeeping [CAP:9]
 Case allocated within Family Court (in accordance with Guidance and Rules). Papers submitted to CAFCASS (Day 1 after issue)

Safeguarding checks [CAP:13]
 Completed by Cafcass (Day 17 after receipt of application)

Directions on Issue (where necessary) [CAP:9.4]
 If the Applicant has not attended MIAM and an exemption has not been validly claimed, the Gatekeeping Judge may direct attendance of the parties (or either of them) at MIAM before the FHDRA (below). Other directions may be given.

MIAM [CAP:9.4(1)]
 Both or either party may be referred to MIAM (where not complied with requirement to attend)

First Hearing Dispute Resolution Appointment (FHDRA) [CAP:14]
 Attended by parties. Cafcass in attendance (In week 5-6)

Interim Order
 If necessary in the interests of the child

MIAM
 Either party may be directed to attend

Where issues of domestic or child abuse arise and fact finding is necessary, filing of statements/ schedule of issues in dispute.

Mediation/Dispute Resolution
 Attend for Mediation /SPIP or other Dispute Resolution Service. Parties to consider Parenting Plan

Fact Finding Hearing [CAP:20]
 (Issues of Domestic or child abuse). In accordance with PD12J

Filing of statements - where ordered

Welfare (section 7) report?

Dispute Resolution Appointment (DRA) [CAP:19]

Final welfare hearing

FINAL ORDER

AGREEMENT

Orders to monitor / support contact [CAP:15.5]
 i.e. Section 11H CA 1989, Section 16, CA 1989

Enforcement of Court Order [CAP:21]
 (Where order is not complied with). Consider (1) swift return before Judge (2) s.11J CA89 (3) Further safeguarding checks (4) determination of any facts on issue