



CHILD-CENTRIC

# PARENTING PLAN

Template

**The information provided in this document is not intended to constitute professional advice and you should take full and comprehensive legal or accountancy or financial advice as appropriate on your individual circumstances by a fully qualified Solicitor, Accountant or Financial Advisor/Mortgage Broker respectively before you embark on any course of action.**



## 1. Parents

This agreement is to put in place an arrangement for parenting our children that will benefit them throughout their childhood and enable them to develop into strong, confident happy adults in the future.

This is our Parenting Plan and is agreed between:

**Parent 1:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

and

**Parent 2:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**For**

**Child 1**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

**Child 2**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

**Child 3**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

On: \_\_\_\_\_



## **2. Statement of Intent**

**We recognise our children's rights to:**

- emotional and physical safety, stability and security;
- feeling loved by both of us and our significant family members;
- knowing and being cared for by both of us and significant family members; and
- developing independent and meaningful relationships with each of us.

**As parents we accept responsibility for:**

- our children's physical care, health and safety;
- our children's emotional stability;
- our children's changing needs as they grow and mature;
- protecting our children so they are not exposed to any harmful parental conflict;
- co-operating with each other to make decisions in our children's best interests; and
- respecting our children's relationship with each of us.



### **3. Reviews**

#### **First Review:**

We agree to undertake a first review this Plan on: \_\_\_\_\_

We intend to review this plan again every \_\_\_\_\_ months.

#### **Subsequent Reviews:**

Dates of subsequent plan reviews when they have taken place:

1. Date of Subsequent Review: \_\_\_\_\_

The Plan has been reviewed and:

We both have a copy of the amended Plan/The Plan has remained the same.

Signed Parent 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed Parent 2: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Date of Subsequent Review: \_\_\_\_\_

The Plan has been reviewed and:

We both have a copy of the amended Plan/The Plan has remained the same.

Signed Parent 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed Parent 2: \_\_\_\_\_



## **4. Decisions**

### **4.1. Important decisions**

#### **A) Health:**

Covering any eventuality relating to the Child(ren)'s physical, psychological or emotional health. How the other parent will be notified, kept up to date when something happens relating to the child(ren).

#### **B) Education:**

Covering any organisation, facility or establishment relating to Child(ren)'s education when at schools and arrangements when home schooled. Who decides which school they attend and when. How changes will be agreed and notified.



**C) Education Additional:**

Covering issues such as being notified of unexpected school absences eg truancy, being On Report, detention etc. How each parent will notify the other of school photos, school trips, sports days and so on.

**D) Holiday Arrangements | Travel:**

Covering any break away from the family home for a period of more than one week within England and Wales and for any duration outside of England and Wales. What process you will follow to notify and agree with the other parent of such holidays, passports and so on.



## **5. Time Spent With Each Parent**

### **5.1. Stay With Parent 1**

When the child(ren) will Stay with Parent 1 and on what terms and so on (if any).

### **5.2. Stay With Parent 2**

When the child(ren) will Stay with Parent 2 and on what terms and so on (if any).



### **5.3. Children's Birthdays**

What different arrangements apply (if any) to the children's birthdays – if they fall on a weekday and if they fall on a weekend and so on.

### **5.4. Parent's Birthdays**

What different arrangements apply (if any) when it is a parent's birthday – if that birthday falls on a weekday and if they fall on a weekend and so on.





### **5.5. Mother's Day & Father's Day**

What different arrangements apply (if any) on Mother's Day and Father's Day as they fall on a weekend and so on.

### **5.6. Bank Holidays & Inset Days**

What different arrangements apply (if any) on Bank Holidays and Inset Days and similar public holidays.



## **5.7. School Holidays**

### **A) October half-term**

What are or what will be the arrangements for the October half-term, will this alternate and so on.

### **B) February half-term**

What are or what will be the arrangements for the February half-term, will this alternate and so on.

### **C) Easter holiday**

What are or what will be the arrangements for the Easter holidays, how will this holiday be split, will this alternate and so on.



**D) May half-term**

What are or what will be the arrangements for the May half-term, will this alternate and so on.

**E) Summer holiday**

What are or what will be the arrangements for the summer holidays, how will this holiday be split, will this alternate and so on.



## **F) Christmas and New Year**

What are or what will be the arrangements for the Christmas period and New Year, will this alternate, when will the handover between the two periods take place and so on.



### **5.8. Other Special Times**

Other Days for Consideration: Other Religious Festivals/ Special Family Events/ Gatherings.

### **5.9. Other School Times**

Arrangements for school plays, PTA meetings and so on.

### **5.10. Additional Times**

There may be such other contact as is agreed between the parents from time to time.

We both agree that that we can vary these arrangements by mutual agreement and swap dates and times by agreement and add new additional times for the children to see either parent as the circumstances allow.



**A) Indirect Contact e.g. telephone and WhatsApp messaging**

When, how often and for how long etc the child(ren) can communicate with the parent they are not with indirectly by messaging and phone calls and so on.

**B) Direct Contact e.g. FaceTime and WhatsApp video and Skype video**

When, how often and for how long etc the child(ren) can communicate with the parent they are not with directly by face time etc and so on.

**C) Other Direct Contact e.g. after school activities, eg football training, music lessons and so on**

When, how often and for how long etc the child(ren) will be taken and collected from after school activities and so on.



## **6. Logistics**

### **6.1. Pick Up (Term Time)**

Where and when the child(ren) will be picked up and by which parent during term time and so on.

### **6.2. Pick Drop Off (Term Time)**

Where and when the child(ren) will be dropped off and by which parent during term time and so on.

### **6.3. Pick Up (Non - Term Time)(& Inset Days and Bank Holidays etc)**

Where and when the child(ren) will be picked up and by which parent during non - term time and so on.

### **6.4. Drop Off (Non - Term Time) (& Inset Days and Bank Holidays etc)**

Where and when the child(ren) will be dropped off and by which parent during non- term time and so on.



## **7. Other Issues**

### **7.1. New partners**

What would be the process of introducing the child(ren) to new partners?  
Should the relationship subsist for a certain period first, if so, how long and so on.

### **7.2. Additional financial contributions**

Covering any costs associated with the maintenance of the children for extra curricular activities, sports days, school trips and so on.





## **8. Changes to the Parenting Plan:**

### **8.1. Temporary Changes**

**Within this Parenting Plan we agree that there will be flexibility as follows:**

- a. Where a parent is sick and cannot physically care for the children.
- b. Where an event occurs that is beyond the control of the parent.

We agree to be reasonable and understanding on the above points.

### **8.2. Emergency Changes**

We agree that in an emergency, the Parenting Plan can be changed for as short a period of time as is absolutely necessary

We agree that we will notify the other parent as soon as it is safe to do so.

### **8.3. Permanent Changes**

Any permanent changes to the above arrangements will be by mutual agreement only.



## **9. Dispute Resolution**

### **9.1. Unhappiness with existing arrangements**

If either party believes that this agreement is breaking down, we will resolve the issues by:

- (i) Listing out the areas we do not feel are working well with accompanying examples to support the notion.
- (ii) Agree on the changes if possible and then amend the agreement.
- (iii) Sign the new agreement.

### **9.2. Breakdown in the arrangements**

We agree that we will maintain current arrangements until the issue(s) are resolved.

### **9.3. Mediation**

We agree that we will attend a suitably qualified Family Mediator agreed between both of us. Parent 1 will propose 3 local independent Family mediators with whom Parent 1 has no connection with. Parent 2 will nominate one of those 3 Family mediators with whom parent 2 has no connection with to work with the parents to try to resolve the issues between the Parents.

The costs of mediation will be met by both parties equally.



#### **9.4. Court**

We both agree that we will use our best endeavours to resolve matters amicably and in the spirit of compromise. If we cannot do so we will attend mediation and ultimately if that fails, either Parent can take the matter to court for the court to resolve the issue.

We both recognise that court based solutions can be VERY expensive and can increase the acrimony between the Parents and heighten the sense of conflict for the children. We both accept that court should be seen as a last resort when all else has failed.

### **10. Agreement**

**We will respect each other as parents and each other's significance in the lives of our children.**

**We have drawn up this Parenting Plan to assist us in providing a loving, stable, caring and safe environment for our children, in line with their age and needs and goals.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2