Children 1st Mediation

Specialist Family Mediators

Financial Mediation

Divorcing, Co-habiting
or Civil partners,
looking to achieve an
amicable financial
settlement

Financial Mediation

No matter how hard it feels right now, at Children 1st Mediation we can help you navigate a way forward with your finances that works for both of you Keeping you both firmly in the driving seat.

At Children 1st Mediation we understand the emotional challenges of separation, for many people they can feel lost, and struggle to be able to see a way forward beyond the difficulties they are facing.

We won't make any judgements, instead our highly trained mediators are here to help you both navigate the next steps and provide supportive, compassionate guidance throughout the process.

"A clear and practical approach to finding fair financial solutions as you move forward separately"

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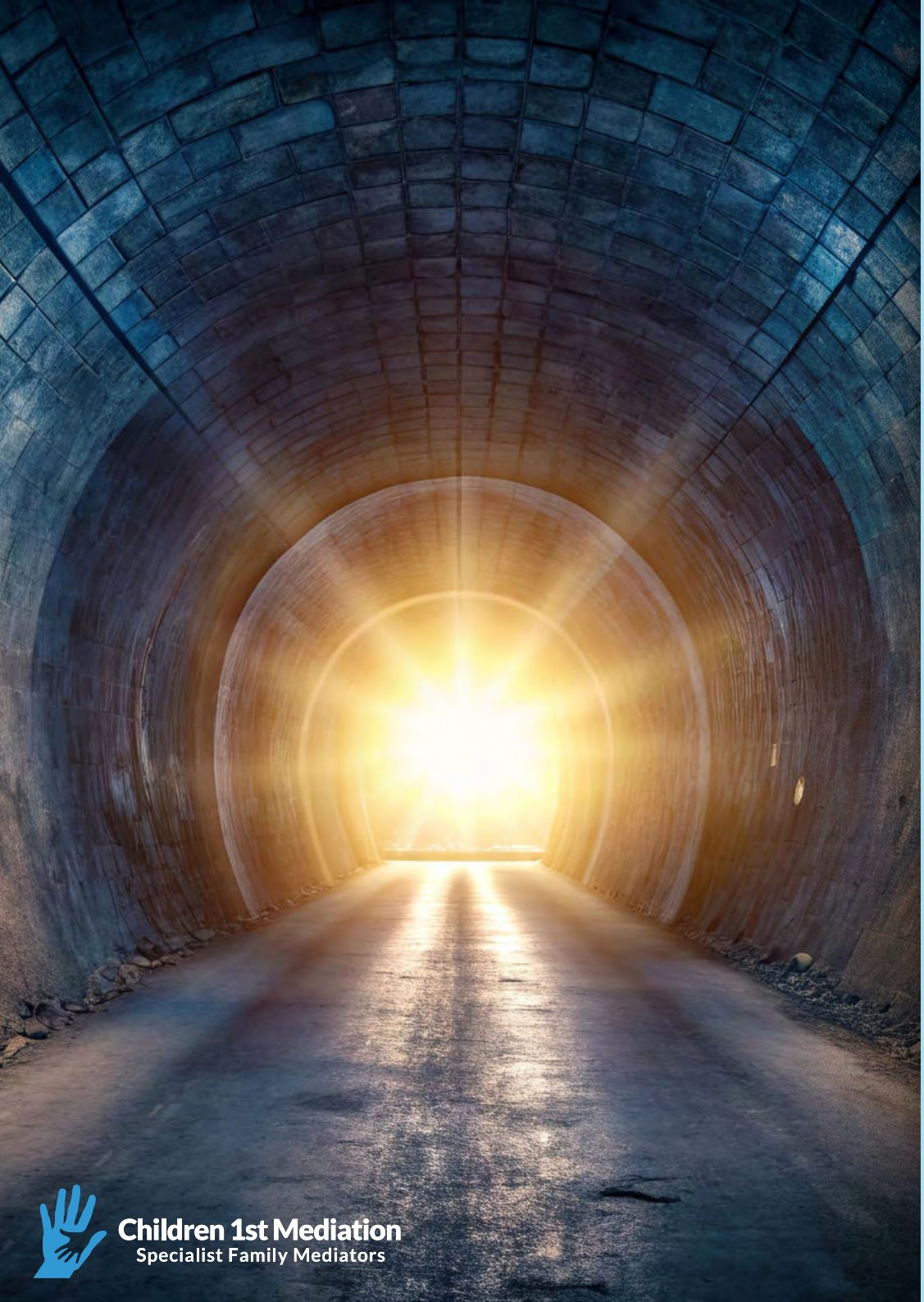

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We pride ourselves in delivering the highest standards of expertise and commit to supporting both of you to find some light at the end of the tunnel.

Whether you were married, in a civil partnership or not it makes no difference to us. We can help families sort out the following issues:

- Property division
- Investments and savings
- Pensions
- Deciding on how any assets are divided
- Inheritance
- Division of personal belongings including household contents
- Financial support for one another
- Financial support for any children
- Child arrangements

There may be other issues that you wish to discuss, please feel free to contact our support team if you have a different issue.

www.children1stmediation.co.uk

Sorting out the Finances

Starting the mediation process. We know it can feel daunting considering doing something new, that's why we make it as easy as possible for you to start the mediation process.

The first step in the mediation process is to set up an initial information meeting, often referred to as a MIAM (Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting). You can easily book this by emailing us for a callback or by giving us a call directly.

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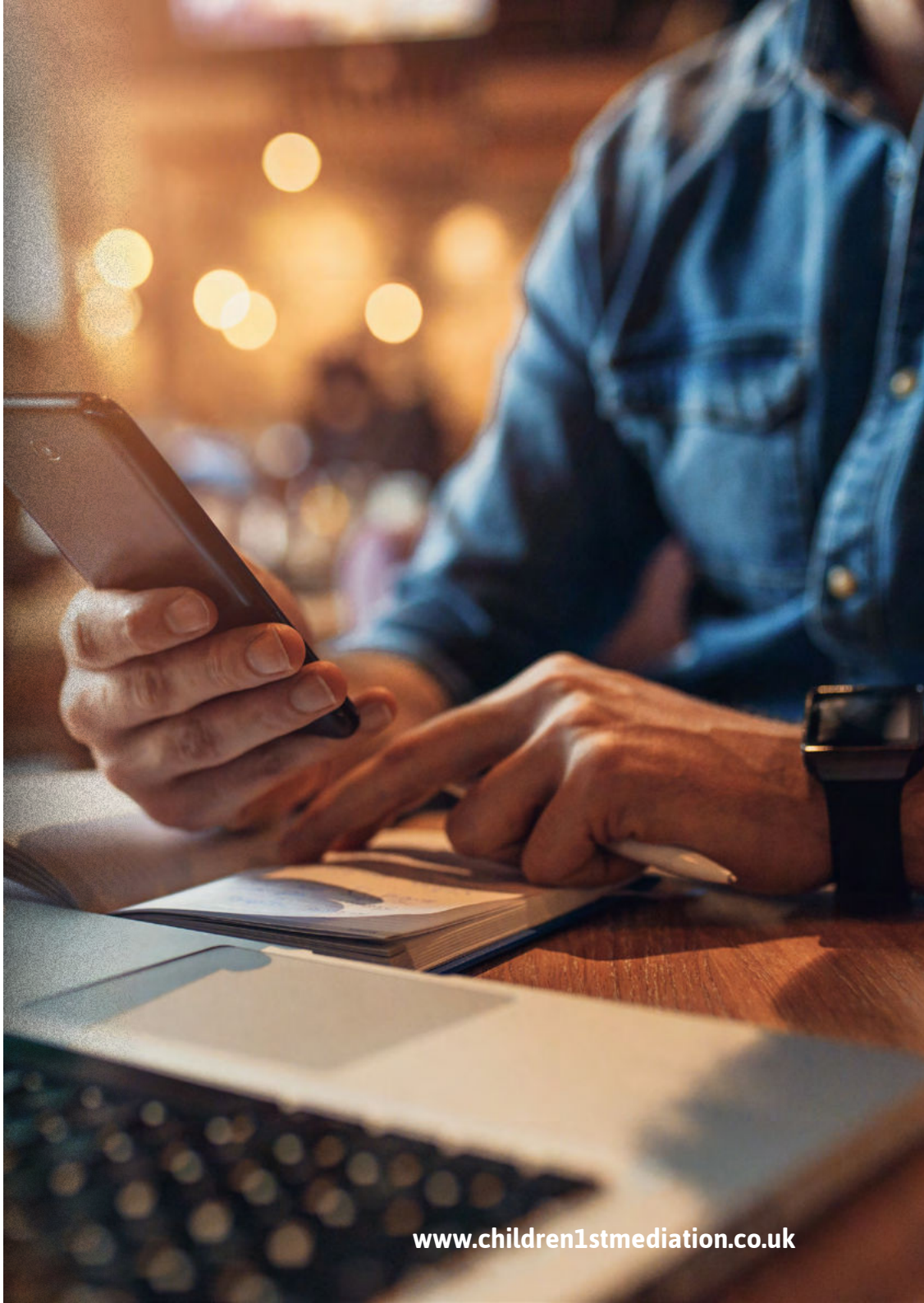

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What happens in a MIAM

The MIAM meeting is a 1-1 confidential meeting between you and the Mediator. This is your opportunity to share information about the situation that you are looking to try to resolve.

The Mediator will also ask some questions to make sure that mediation is the right process for you, and they will explain how it works. If mediation isn't suitable they will also give you information on other types of non-court dispute resolution.

If you are thinking of applying to court then this meeting is a requirement in law, and you will need a mediator to sign a form for you to say that you have attended. The courts indicate that they expected both parents to attend a MIAM.

The Mediation Process: Step-by-Step

Initial Consultation (MIAM)

Meet with your mediator 1-1 to discuss your situation and understand the mediation process.

Assess suitability in your case.

Joint Financial Mediation Session

You both participate in joint sessions to communicate about your needs and concerns.

Sharing undesirable financial information and documentation (Disclosure)

Outline priorities and concerns

Explore different options in detail

2nd. (Or more) Joint Session Developing a plan for a way forward

Continue with discussions towards finding a solution

Develop discussions to reach consensus

Clarify details of terms of settlement

Clarify next steps to enable you to have your settlement made legally binding if/when appropriate

Following on from successful mediation

Assuming that you are in the 87% of clients who manage to reached a mutually agreeable way forward

Your Mediator can prepare a document setting out your proposed settlement

Your Mediator finalises the Open Financial Statement (if married) – sends to you both to sign

Next Steps

You should consider taking legal advice to check settlement is legally fair

Solicitor/Legal Advisor can prepare legal documents.

Apply to court submitting the documentation to court for a judge to approve the consent order, and enable you to finalise your divorce.

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Making sure your agreement is fair

When going through separation or divorce, mediation is the best way to reach a mutual agreement. We understand the need for fairness, ensuring both of you have enough income and resources to support yourselves and your children.

Our mediators will guide you through what the law considers important for a fair settlement, while allowing you to make your own decisions. We recommend getting independent legal advice before making any financial settlement legally binding.

For those who prefer not to use separate legal advisers, you can opt for a shared legal advisor to review your agreement and help with court submissions, avoiding opposing positions.

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Why choose Mediation?

It's no surprise that attending a MIAM is now a legal requirement in England/Wales before any Family Law application can made, that's because the success of mediation is well known, and the fact that it is a much simpler

1

Less expensive

Family mediation is a much cheaper way to reach an agreement in family and divorce matters. The legal costs of going to court can be excessive. The co-operative nature of family mediation is designed to identify practical solutions as quickly and effectively as possible, helping keep costs low.

2

More constructive and quicker

Family mediation focuses on giving you both the opportunity to have more difficult discussions in a positive and constructive way. This means that things can most often be sorted within 2-3 sessions.

3

Simpler than legal routes

Going to court is the last thing that you or anyone else wants!

Mediation is much less stressful for everyone concerened and keeps you both in control of the future.

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How much does Mediation cost?

Depending on your financial circumstances you may be eligible for Legal Aid, which means that you would not need to pay for Mediation, and your ex-partner also gets the first 1-1 meeting and the first joint session for free.

If neither of you are eligible for Legal Aid, then we are able to provide a Government Voucher scheme worth up to £500 when you also discuss Child Arrangements..

If you are not eligible for Legal Aid or the voucher please click here for more information about our current fees

Or contact our admin support team who will be pleased to assist you.

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Children 1st Mediation is one of UK's leading providers of Family Mediation

Our Specialist Family Mediators can offer online Mediation wherever you live, and face to face joint session in some locations in England.

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