

Please Ask Families To Use The New Co-Parent Hub

The Co-Parent Hub is a website that gives separated parents access to all the information and advice they need, developed in partnership with OnePlusOne, Cafcass and the Ministry of Justice.

It gives them clear information on how to effectively co-parent and manage child arrangements, and the tools to support them negotiate child arrangements, sustain effective co-parenting relationships, and reduce parental conflict. The <u>Covid-19 tab</u> also provides families with curated content to support them in making child arrangements during the Coronavirus lockdown.

Parents who use it can:

- create a <u>Parenting Plan</u> online, so they can agree a shared plan (which they can take to Court) or negotiate new arrangements flexibly and in line with their children's developing needs;
- complete the interactive <u>Getting It Right For Children</u> programme, which helps families improve relationships by communicating better; and
- set goals. This directs parents to the content that is most useful for them.
- Prepare for court and learn about the alternatives.

These approaches are designed to help families resolve issues and reduce the number of cases that need to go to court.

Parents may hear about the Hub from Family Court Advisers, SPIP providers and Mediators. So when you communicate with a family who would benefit, please ask them to use the Co-Parent Hub.

The Co-Parent Hub is free for separated parents to use, and mobile friendly, so people can use it online or on their phone, at cafcass.clickrelationships.org

For more information on how parents use the site, see the next page.



How Parents Can Use the Co-Parent Hub

Online Parenting Plan: The online Parenting Plan can be worked on individually or with a User's co-parent. Parenting Plan FAQs are here. A second parent can be added by using an email address. A finished parenting plan can be downloaded as a pdf. Importantly, the online Parenting Plan gives parents the opportunity to negotiate a joint parenting plan online, by submitting suggestions to the plan, which the other parent can agree or amend. Parents can therefore use this to attempt an agreed parenting plan before the First Hearing.

Getting it Right for Children: Getting it Right for Children is a programme that was developed to help demonstrate how different ways of communicating can improve relationships. There are four different stories, which Parents/Carers can engage with. Each story has different videos, which shows the situation going wrong and how everyone felt; then the situation going right and how everyone felt. The programme also provides tips to help develop strategies on how to stay calm, manage anger and communicate better.

<u>Goals:</u> The goal setting function of the website is to <u>direct Parents/Carers to</u> tailored content that might be useful for their personal situation. For example, a Service User could choose "To stay focussed on my child(ren)'s best interests" as a goal, and would then be directed to relevant content, e.g. "The importance of listening to your child" article. Parents/Carers can **update their progress** in relation to each goal they set.

<u>User Dashboard</u>: Each User, after they've created an account, will have access to their **personal dashboard**, which is accessible by clicking on "**my account**" in the top right-hand corner of the screen. The dashboard stores their goals, any bookmarked material, the Parenting Plan they are working on, and their profile page.

It is up to each parent whether they share their progress on Co-Parent Hub. The information added to Co-Parent Hub isn't checked and added to the Cafcass case file unless the parent chooses to share this information with a Family Court Adviser.