

*"The 'go-to' team!"*  
Chambers & Partners UK

## Manches Collaborative Law Team

The Manches Thames Valley family law team has four trained collaborative lawyers who were amongst the first to train in the UK:



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For further details regarding Collaborative Family Law, please visit our website at:

[www.manches.com](http://www.manches.com)

or refer to the following websites:

[www.collaborativepractice.com](http://www.collaborativepractice.com)

[www.oxfordshirecollaborativefamilylawgroup.co.uk](http://www.oxfordshirecollaborativefamilylawgroup.co.uk)

# MANCHES

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## COLLABORATIVE LAW

A fresh approach to separation and divorce

[www.manches.com](http://www.manches.com)

Ranked as leaders for family law since 2001

### Collaborative law - a non-confrontational alternative to litigation

The breakdown of a relationship is never easy and no matter how it arises, confrontation over the terms of the separation will make things even more difficult.

Lawyers experienced in working with separating couples, and concerned by the impact on them of adversarial Court proceedings, have created a new, non-confrontational alternative to litigation. It can be used to resolve all aspects of the separation, including the division of the assets and income and the future care of any children.

Collaborative Law is a process whereby a couple engages in a series of open, honest and dignified discussions about the terms of their separation, tailored to suit their priorities and needs. They each have a lawyer who is trained in Collaborative Law and all work together to find fair and sensible solutions for the benefit of the family.

***“Offers an unrivalled service to clients.”***  
The Legal 500

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***“Clients and peers praise the team.”***

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### How does the process work?

- At the outset, you and your lawyer will sign an agreement not to commence Court proceedings and setting out the wider objectives of the process.
- Everyone agrees to be respectful, co-operative and truthful and to work together to find amicable solutions.
- There will be a series of meetings between you and your respective lawyers, during which financial information will be exchanged and all aspects of the separation discussed.
- In the course of these meetings, everyone is encouraged to reach agreement. Creative solutions tailored to your family's circumstances will be sought.
- Once everyone is in agreement, the lawyers will draw up a formal document which will be submitted to the Court for approval and made into a binding Order.

### Why choose the collaborative process?

- You retain control of the process and participate at every stage.
- You have your own legal adviser with you throughout.
- You avoid potentially acrimonious, stressful and protracted Court proceedings.
- You set the agenda, fix the pace and make decisions that are acceptable to you and therefore avoid the uncertainty of a Court-imposed timetable and outcome.
- By reducing the level of confrontation common in Court proceedings, adopting the Collaborative Law approach can help preserve family relationships.

### What is the next step?

For new clients, we offer a free initial 20 minute discussion on the telephone to discuss your situation and why a collaborative approach may be best for you.