

MANCHES



COLLABORATIVE

A new, 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 that 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.

How does the process work?

- At the outset, you and your lawyers will sign an agreement not to commence court proceedings and setting out the wider objectives of the process.
- Everyone agrees to be respectful, cooperative 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.

“A centre for fabulous work handled by fantastic lawyers”

Chambers and Partners

The team

The Manches family law team has 15 trained collaborative lawyers who were amongst the first to train in the UK.

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**Manches is a leading commercial and private client law firm
in London, Oxford and Reading.**

In addition to having one of the country's leading family law departments, we provide a full range of legal services including corporate finance, employment, litigation and arbitration and commercial matters generally.

The firm has a focus on specialist areas including international wealth protection, real estate, public sector, technology and retail.

For further details please visit: www.manches.com