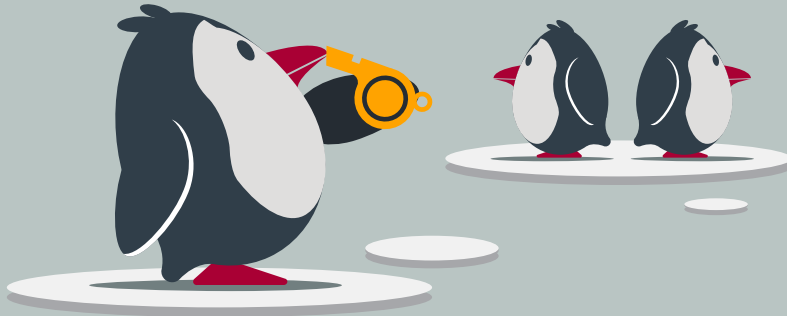


Select an expert to  
**arbitrate** the dispute

RAYDENSOLICITORS



## ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION | **ARBITRATION**



**EMILY WATSON**  
EXECUTIVE  
PARTNER &  
ARBITRATOR

Choosing the right arbitrator for your family matter is crucial.

Emily Watson is a qualified Children Arbitrator and a Partner at specialist family law firm Rayden Solicitors. Emily has been practising family law exclusively since 2002 and has extensive experience across all areas. In particular, she has significant experience of disputes concerning children, with a specific expertise in contested Child Arrangements Orders and a strong track record in external relocation (leave to remove) cases.

Emily is also a Resolution accredited specialist in Children Law (private) and Complex Financial Remedies, particularly involving medium to high net worth income and assets.

As a qualified Arbitrator, Emily offers an efficient and cost effective alternative to court proceedings.

### **ARBITRATION** IN CHILDREN DISPUTES

Arbitration is one of the alternative dispute resolution options available to help you resolve your case swiftly and efficiently. An arbitrator acts in a judicial capacity to make reasoned decisions in your case without the need to attend court. The decision of an arbitrator is as binding as the decision of a judge in the court process and it has the full support of the court. You will continue to have the support of your legal team who will represent you throughout the arbitration process, unless you choose to represent yourself.

### BENEFITS OF **ARBITRATION**

- **Expertise** – You and the other party are able to select an arbitrator who is an expert in the area of the dispute.
- **Time** – You will avoid the very long delays between court stages and the process can progress at your pace.
- **Preparation** – Your arbitrator will know your case, will have read the documents and will know the facts of the matter prior to any arbitration hearing.
- **Flexibility** – Arbitration is a bespoke process. It can be as formal or informal as you need it to be.
- **Location** – Arbitration can take place at a location to suit you.
- **Costs** – You and your partner normally share the cost of the arbitrator's fees. It is more cost effective than going through the court process because of court delay, much shorter hearing times and no 'side arguments' while you wait the many months to final hearing.

Continued overleaf

## HOW **ARBITRATION** WORKS

The process comprises three stages:

- 1. Preparation:** choosing the arbitrator and agreeing the parameters of the arbitration process i.e. what decisions the arbitrator will be required to make.
- 2. The Arbitration:** the first arbitration meeting is usually via a conference call. All subsequent meetings can be conducted either in person at a mutually convenient venue, or via preferred virtual meeting platforms or conference call facilities. Solicitors and/or barristers are able to represent you or you can represent yourself. At the first meeting a timetable for your case will be agreed. You will also agree directions for what should happen and by when, whether there should be a hearing or whether the arbitrator can make a decision based on the paperwork alone.
- 3. Conclusion:** your arbitrator will consider the evidence provided (whether at a hearing or on paper) and will make a final decision. Your arbitrator will provide written reasons for the decision to both parties. This decision will be put to the court to be made an order of the court.

## WHEN TO USE **ARBITRATION**

The following is a non-exhaustive list of circumstances when arbitration may be appropriate for resolving your case:

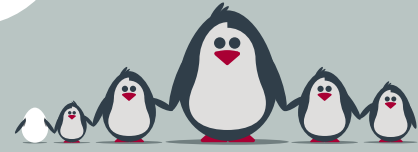
- You have undergone mediation and have made real progress but there are some issues remaining between you and the other party that require a decision.
- If your mediation has progressed but no agreement has been reached.
- If you have been negotiating through your solicitor (and may have already exchanged proposals for child arrangements) and negotiations have stalled.
- There is a narrow issue (such as choice of school, division of school holidays or permission to go abroad) which needs a swift and cost effective decision.
- You have engaged in the court process and have perhaps reached the exchange of children statements and welfare reports, the First Appointment or had a failed Dispute Resolution hearing.
- You want to avoid waiting for a court timetable and want your matter to be resolved effectively and efficiently, as soon as possible.
- In some cases, arbitration can run alongside the court process so that decisions are made by the arbitrator between hearings to prevent a delay in progressing matters at court.

## CONTACT **DETAILS**

If you think arbitration would suit you and your family matter, you can contact Emily Watson at [arbitration@raydensolicitors.co.uk](mailto:arbitration@raydensolicitors.co.uk) or if you wish to discuss further please telephone **Emily** on **01442 819144**.

**RAYDENSOLICITORS**

**Specialist** family lawyers.  
**RAYDENSOLICITORS**



Emily is very aware of the significant emotional stress that her clients face, particularly in children matters, so is very proud to be recognised by both professional peers and clients for her calm but thorough manner in handling cases.

## TESTIMONIALS

*"Thank you Emily once again for all of your hard work and advice but also for your support and caring manner. You are great at what you do because I think you really do care."*

*Client*

*"Emily is a superb lawyer. Calm, thorough with a great eye for detail."*

*Professional Referee*

*"Emily is a star and simply wonderful to deal with! She is direct, succinct, highly professional, organised, crystal clear and very efficient. She is absolutely brilliant and it is a complete pleasure to work with her!"*

*Client*

*"Emily gets to the core of a problem quickly." Legal 500*

A **silver lining**  
with every dark cloud.  
**RAYDENSOLICITORS**



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