

Parenting Plan Preparation Guide

A structured guide to help you think through the elements a workable parenting plan usually needs to address.

Living arrangements & routine

- Where will the children live day to day, and how will that be structured (e.g. week on/week off, primary residence with defined contact)?
- What does a typical school-week routine look like for pickups, drop-offs and homework?

Holidays & special occasions

- How will school holidays be divided?
- How will birthdays, religious holidays and other significant occasions be handled?

Decision-making

- Which decisions will be made jointly (schooling, medical, religion) and which independently?
- How will disagreements about these decisions be resolved if they arise?

Communication

- How will you and your co-parent communicate about day-to-day matters?
- How will information be shared about the children's wellbeing, school and health?

Looking ahead

- How will the plan be revisited as children grow older or circumstances change?
- What happens if a parent wishes to relocate?
- How will new partners or extended family be introduced, if relevant?

This guide provides general information only and does not constitute legal advice. A parenting plan reached through mediation is typically formalised with the involvement of your own attorney.