

Parenting Plan Information

One of the most difficult challenges facing parents at the time of separation is deciding how they will divide responsibility for and time with their children.

Parents sometimes fear that loss of their adult relationship will also mean a loss of their parent-child relationship.

They are also concerned about the potential negative impact of their separation on their children's healthy development.

Before designing a plan for your family, you should consider your unique situation. Raising children is difficult for all parents.

When parents live in separate homes the challenges are greater because relationships are more complicated.

Sometimes one parent disagrees about how much time a child should spend with the other.

If you are unable to reach an agreement on your Parenting Plan, you may want to seek the assistance of a Mediator in negotiating a Parenting Plan.

Even if you are certain that you can work things out as they occur, having a detailed plan to fall back on is the best way to guard against conflicts in the future.

Please contact your Family Court Services staff if you would like more information about developmental information for your children as well as more information about a parenting plan.

Please remember, these considerations, these tools:

- Are tools for parents;
- Are NOT "the law";
- DO NOT prohibit or limit parents or judges from creating parenting plans that differ from the sample plans presented here;
- DO NOT mandate minimum or maximum amount of parenting time for either parent;
- MAY NOT be helpful in all circumstances.

Contact Family Court Services for education and information about process and procedure.