

The Law Society and the Family Mediation Council Grant Accreditation to Drenne Dunphy of Pictons

Family Law specialist solicitor <u>Drenne Dunphy</u>, from leading regional law firm Pictons, has been granted mediation accreditation from the Law Society and the Family Mediation Council.

As from January 2015, the Family Mediation Council put in place profession-wide standards and a competence framework against which all family mediators wishing to be accredited will be judged and assessed. To achieve her accreditation, Drenne submitted an extensive portfolio covering her mediation practice, experience and skills over the last couple of years.

Drenne says "I am absolutely thrilled to have been granted accreditation with the Law Society and the Family Mediation Council. I've been practicing family law since 1984 and in 2012 I decided to train as a family mediator to increase my skill set. I registered with Resolution on their foundation course and over a period of 4 months I attended various training days, after which I was approved to be able to conduct my own mediations.

"I then did a further course to achieve authorisation to conduct Mediation Information and Assessment Meetings (MIAMs). These are meetings between the client and the mediator to explore options to resolve <u>family issues</u>, to explain how mediation works, to assess whether a client is eligible for legal aid and to establish whether in fact mediation may be appropriate in their particular situation.

"Since completing my course, I have spent a large part of my working week in my role as a trained mediator and I have been pleased to have helped various couples resolve their issues on an amicable basis.

"I believe <u>Mediation</u> is usually a preferable option when couples are <u>separating</u>. It's amazing how it can not only speed up the process and save on costs, but is often a better way of achieving a happier outcome rather than cases having to go to court."

If you are going through Separation or Divorce then contact us on 0845 263 7505* or email <u>info@pictons.co.uk</u>

*local rates apply - mobiles may vary