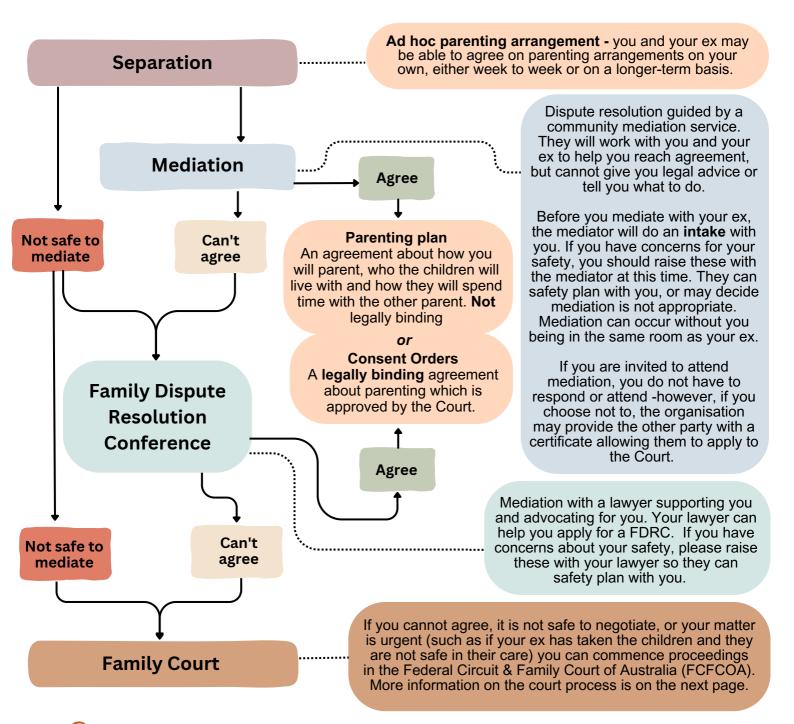


Fact Sheet: Family Law System





Keep in mind! This factsheet is just an example of a common journey through the Family Court system. Every family is different, so every experience in the Family Court system will be different. Things like safety risks, age of the children and ability to communicate will change what your family law journey might look like.



SiS Tasmania for legal and non-legal support for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island Adults and Children who have or are experiencing Family Violence or Sexual Assault. Operates 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

**** 1800 747 827

sistas.org.au

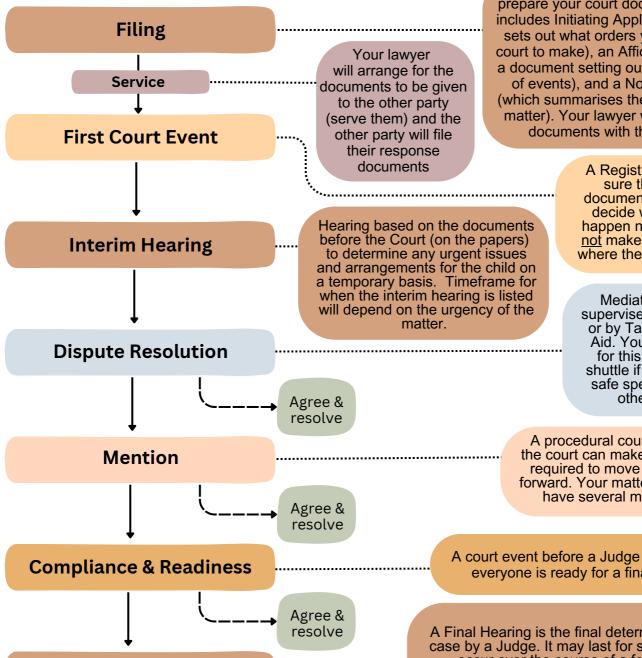
scan the QR code for more resources and support information

Other support available:

FVCSS: 1800 737 732 1800RESPECT: 1800 727 732 POLICE (non emergency): 131 444 EMERGENCY: 000



Fact Sheet: Family Law System



Throughout the above process, the Court will be trying to gather extra information to help you and the other party to reach agreement and help the Judge to make decisions. These will happen throughout your court matter. This can include:

- Appointing an Independent Children's Lawyer
- Having you participate in a Child Impact Report or Family Report
- Getting reports from Police or Child Safety Services
- Sending everyone back to mediation

Final Hearing

You'll work with your lawyer to prepare your court documents. This includes Initiating Application (which sets out what orders you want the court to make), an Affidavit (which is a document setting out your version of events), and a Notice of Risk (which summarises the risks in your matter). Your lawyer will file these documents with the Court

> A Registrar will make sure the correct documents are filed & decide what should happen next. They will not make orders about where the children live.

Mediation run and supervised by the Court or by Tasmania Legal Aid. You can request for this to occur via shuttle if you don't feel safe speaking to the other party.

A procedural court event so the court can make any orders required to move the matter forward. Your matter is likely to have several mentions.

A court event before a Judge to make sure everyone is ready for a final hearing.

A Final Hearing is the final determination of the case by a Judge. It may last for several days or occur over the course of a few weeks.

At the Final Hearing, each party presents their case to the Judge. You will be cross examined during the hearing, as will the other party.

After the Final Hearing, the Judge will make a decision. They may need time to consider the evidence and generally have you return in a few weeks for their decision.

When the Judge makes their decision, you will be provided a set of Orders that you must follow. If you don't follow them, you can be penalised by the Court.