

What clients say: About the Collaborative Process:

"I was pleased with the process and will recommend it to anyone I know who is thinking about separation or divorce."

"I was pleased that we were able to negotiate what felt fair to both of us."

"Well, we can pay people to fight for each of us, or we can work it out and pay people to help us. I'd rather do the last one!"

"The collaborative process provided three significant benefits. (1) the private nature in which it is performed; (2) less contentiousness and therefore, less anxiety-ridden; and (3) the outcome seemed fair for both parties."

Collaborative Family Law Group

■ A new way to resolve divorce and family disputes with dignity and respect.

■ Divorce takes an immense toll. Time, emotions and financial resources are often sacrificed.

■ There is another way, a less adversarial, more solution-oriented alternative. It is **Collaborative Family Law**.

"Alone we can do so little: together we can do so much"

Helen Keller

"Respect your fellow human being, treat them fairly, disagree with them honestly, enjoy their friendship, explore your thoughts about one another candidly, work together for a common goal and help one another achieve it"

Bill Bradley

Finding out more about collaborative law

In Colchester specialist family lawyers, all members of Resolution, have set up a collaborative group, who are trained and skilled in helping people like you to benefit from the collaborative approach to resolving family disputes.

To find out more visit
www.collaborativelawyerscolchester.co.uk

Or

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Colchester Collaborative Family Lawyers

 **resolution**
First for family law

 **Collaborative**
All-together better solutions

Colchester Collaborative Family Lawyers Finding solutions together

How collaborative lawyers in Colchester ease the pain of family breakdown

Talking things through can sometimes seem the hardest challenge of all. Especially when relationships break down, hurt, bitterness and anger are often the strongest feelings.

But almost always, the very best solutions are those which you work out for yourselves, together - in which everyone involved can share.

At its simplest, that's what collaborative law is all about - reaching solutions together, to ease the pain of relationship breakdown and create the best chance of building a brighter future.

Now, a new group of independent family lawyers in Colchester is on hand to help.

Changing the way people resolve family breakdown

Traditionally, when couples split, they each take independent advice from specialist family lawyers. Working through their lawyers, they try to reach agreement on how best to settle their differences.

They work out how to share the assets - and the responsibilities, for the children for example - as they each go their separate ways. In many cases, with the help of Resolution solicitors, couples reach agreement in this way. Where they don't, it is left to the family courts to decide, and that leads to uncertainty, and often more heartache.

So, imagine the alternative. You and your former partner sit down and, with the help of your own solicitors, all together in the same room, you work it out, face-to-face.

Rather than dealing through your solicitors, you work with them, to reach the best solutions for you and your family.

Collaborative Family Law

A new way of resolving family law matters



What it needs to make it work

It sounds so straightforward. But to work it needs the right people, with the right frame of mind:

- A genuine desire to make it work
- A willingness to disclose, fully and honestly, information about all assets
- Skilled trained solicitors who are practised in working in this new collaborative way
- An agreement that you will reach a solution without going to court.

What makes it so successful

- You still benefit from having your own independent legal adviser. But you are in control, without the threat of court proceedings hanging over you.
 - You set the agenda, so you talk about the things that matter most to you and your family.
 - You set the pace - because you are not governed by court dates and appearances.
 - You can bring in experts, such as financial advisors or accountants, to advise both of you.
 - You maintain contact with your former partner. That way, you have the best chance of understanding each other, and finding the right solutions.
 - Remember, if children are involved, you will both remain parents, and it will help your children to cope better with your separation if they see that you are working things out together.
 - Most importantly, the key decisions you make about your future are yours - they are not made by a stranger in a courtroom.
- The collaborative approach is fundamentally changing the way people think about family law. For couples who genuinely seek a fair solution, and want to minimise the pain of family breakdown, it may offer the very best way ahead. Collaborative lawyers sign an agreement with you which disqualifies them from representing you in court if the collaborative process breaks down.
- That means they are absolutely committed to helping you find the best solutions by agreement, rather than through conflict.