

Are there plans for your child to be adopted?

Mediation can be a good way to work out important issues such as how often you see your children. Legal Aid NSW can represent you in a mediation.



What is adoption?

Adoption is the legal process that permanently hands over all rights and responsibilities from the parents who gave birth to the child to someone else – the adoptive parents. It also involves making arrangements for the child to see their birth parents and other family members, which are recorded in an **Adoption Plan**. An Adoption Plan can be registered by the Court which means that everyone has to follow it.

Even if you do not agree with the adoption, it is very important to work out the best Adoption Plan for your child. Mediation is often a good way to talk about this.

What is mediation?

Mediation is a meeting between birth families, the proposed adoptive parents, caseworkers and lawyers. The meeting is arranged by someone independent, who won't take sides. They will make sure everyone gets a chance to have their say. They will help everyone work out what things can be agreed, and what things are not agreed.

How can Legal Aid NSW help?

We can give you advice about the adoption process. We can also give you advice about the Adoption Plan. We can represent you at mediation about the Adoption Plan and help you try to get the best arrangements for your child to see you and other family members.

How to contact us

If you would like to talk to a lawyer about going to mediation call Legal Aid NSW on:

1300 888 529

