

KELLSARR FAMILY PRACTICE

CLIENT GUIDE 006

Grandparents' Rights – Understanding Your Options

Purpose

This guide explains the role grandparents can play in a child's life and outlines the general legal position in England and Wales. It is intended for general information only.

Do Grandparents Have Automatic Rights?

Grandparents do not automatically have a legal right to spend time with their grandchildren. However, the law recognises that a meaningful relationship with grandparents can often benefit a child.

Resolving Matters Informally

Where possible, families are encouraged to communicate calmly and reach practical arrangements without court proceedings.

Mediation

Mediation may help family members discuss concerns and explore solutions in a safe and structured environment.

When Court May Be Considered

If agreement cannot be reached, it may be possible to apply to the court for permission to make an application for a Child Arrangements Order. The court will always consider the child's welfare.

What the Court Considers

The court focuses on the child's best interests, the existing relationship with the grandparent and the likely impact of any proposed arrangements.

Preparing Your Information

Keep a record of your relationship with your grandchild, previous contact, important dates and any attempts made to resolve matters amicably.

How Kellsarr Can Help

Kellsarr Family Practice can explain the general process, help you organise information, prepare documents within our professional scope and signpost you to specialist legal advice where appropriate.

Preparation Checklist

- ☐ Timeline of events
- ☐ Record of previous contact
- ☐ Relevant correspondence
- ☐ Notes of mediation attempts (if any)

☐ Questions for your appointment

Disclaimer

This guide provides general information only and is not a substitute for advice tailored to your individual circumstances.