



CHILDREN OF SEPARATED PARENTS – FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Child support – who should provide it?

Both married and unmarried parents (and in certain circumstances people who have lived in family with and acted like parents to children) have an obligation to contribute financially towards the children's upbringing. The parent who does not have the children living with them most of the time should provide financial support for the children. All parents with care of their children, regardless of whether or not they are receiving state benefits, can either enter into a voluntary agreement with the other parent about child support, or can apply to the Child Support Agency (CSA) for an assessment of how much maintenance the other parent should pay.

Financial support for young people – who is entitled?

Young people aged sixteen and over who are in appropriate full-time education or training are entitled to financial support from both parents up to and including the age of twenty-four.

Between the ages of sixteen and eighteen financial support for a young person can be paid from one parent to the other or from the parent to the young person direct. Where the support is for a young person of eighteen and over the support is paid to the young person.

If you need to make arrangements for your child/ren or require guidance on any of the above, contact one of our family lawyers.