



CHILDREN'S VOICE IN FAMILY DISPUTE RESOLUTION

HE TAONGA, HE MOKOPUNA - IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS



Are there some big changes going on at home at the moment? Are your parents separating or going to live apart? This can mean big changes for you, which can feel a bit scary.

It's ok

Family separation happens to lots of families, so there is nothing to be embarrassed about. It can be a sad and awkward time but most of the time it all turns out okay. There's lots to talk about which is why your parents or carers are using Family Works to help. We will help them work out what's best for you and your family so everyone is happy with the changes.



How it works

Your parents or carers will work with someone called a 'Family Mediator' to figure everything out. They will help the adults make plans like who will look after you and for how much of the time, which house or houses you will live in, what happens with school – things like that.

You have a voice too

You're a key part of your family so it's important for you to be listened to and be able to share your thoughts and feelings. It's the parents and carers who need to make the decisions (that's their job) but how you think and feel is really important too and will help them make a great plan.

A Child's Voice Practitioner is someone who listens to your thoughts and feelings. They will chat with you about how things are now - what you like and what you don't like. At the end of your session you will decide what you want to share with your parents. The Child's Voice Practitioner will keep everything you talk about private other than what YOU want to share.

We're here to listen

If this is something that you think you would like to try, ask your mum, dad or carer and we can sort this out for you.

