

Parenting Agreements & Parenting Plan Between Mom and Dad

Mom and Dad desire to address all child related issues including conservatorship, possession of and access to the child, child support, and a dispute resolution process to minimize future disputes between them.

Mom and Dad agree to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will minimize the exposure of the child to harmful parental conflict.

Mom and Dad agree not to make negative remarks about the other party or the other party's family.

Mom and Dad agree to be respectful to the other party and the other party's family in the presence of the child.

Mom and Dad agree to communicate with each other in a polite, civil, and cooperative manner and to attempt to resolve disputes concerning the child with dignity and by focusing on the best interest of the child.

Mom and Dad agree that at all times the parties will attempt to minimize disruption of the child's education, daily routine, association with friends and all extra-curricular activities.

As the child's needs change and as the child grows and matures, Mom and Dad agree to communicate with one another at either party's request to discuss these changing needs and how to address them in a manner that minimizes the need for further modification to the parenting plan.

Mom and Dad shall make every effort to foster the respect and affection of the child for the other parent. Each parent shall do nothing that would in any way estrange the child from the other parent or that would hamper the free and natural continuation of the love and affection of the child for the other parent or would injure the opinion of the child of the other parent.

Mom and Dad shall give support to the other parent in their roles as parents of the child and to take into account the consensus of the other parent for the physical and emotional well-being of the child.

Mom and Dad shall each be entitled to complete and full information from any doctor, dentist, consultant, psychologist or other specialist attending to the minor child for any reason whatsoever, and to have copies of any reports given to them as parents. In addition, each parent shall be entitled to complete and full information from any teacher and school giving instructions to the minor child or to have copies of any reports given to them as parents.

Mom and Dad will consult with one another and cooperate in making decisions regarding the child and neither parent shall do anything to undermine the child's affection and respect for the other parent.

Mom and Dad agree to work together to schedule a make-up visit with the other parent if a visitation period is ever missed due to illness of the child or the parent.

At the beginning of a child's senior year of high school, Mom and Dad will discuss with the child and consult with each other with respect to costs associated with the senior year of high school including prom and prom-related activities, college test prep course(s), college testing, college visits, college applications, the post-high school education of the child, and Mom and Dad will discuss and attempt to come to an agreement on how to pay these costs.

Additionally, Mom and Dad agree to the following parental guidelines:

1. to provide the child with an emotional environment in which the child is free to continue to love the other parent and to spend time with the other parent;

2. to encourage good feelings from the child about the other parent and their extended family, including new step-parents and step-siblings if and when they may have any;
3. to encourage the child to remember the other parent on special occasions;
4. to communicate with the other parent openly, honestly and regularly to avoid misunderstandings which are harmful to the child;
5. to discuss plans with the other parent rather than through the child;
6. to plan and consult with the other parent in advance for possession times with the child;
7. to not take sides to take issue with decisions or actions made by the other parent, especially in front of the child;
8. to refrain from fighting, arguing with the other parent or speaking in a degrading manner to or of the other parent in the presence of the child;
9. to refrain from withholding telephone or email contact or time with the other parent as a punishment to the child or the other parent;
10. to take a consistent and predictable role in the child's life, using time with the child to strengthen a relationship with the child and to promote overall stability for the child and their old and new families;
11. to allow and observe the other parent's right to have daily contact by phone calls, text messages or emails with the child;
12. to realize that time with the child and financial support are two separate areas and that one has no legal effect on the other;
13. to make changes in plans by mutual agreement with reasonable notice to the other parent, except for emergencies;
14. to observe time schedules with the child and to remain flexible whenever time schedules must be adjusted;
15. to refrain from burdening the child with adult worries, such as financial, career or social;
16. to at all times behave discretely with other people and refrain from all inappropriate behaviors of any kind when in the child's presence; and
17. to treat the child as a unique young person with respect to the child's feelings and needs.