**Child Inclusive Mediation**

**Consultation with children as part of a mediation process**

You agree that an impartial mediator will meet with your child(ren) on the following basis:-

The purpose of the meeting would be to offer your child(ren) an opportunity to have a say in the arrangements you are making and to express any suggestions, feelings, concerns or wishes that he/she/they may wish to put forward concerning these arrangements.

Any decisions remain with you both. Your child(ren) will not be asked to make choices or decisions.

You accept that although your child(ren) may not wish to say anything to me, there can nonetheless be benefits for children in feeling included in the mediation process and being assured that their feelings and concerns can be heard and taken into account.

My meeting with your child(ren) will be confidential, except in a situation that gives rise to concerns about someone's safety and/or child protection issues, in which case I would be obliged to report these concerns to a child protection agency.

I would need your child(ren) 's agreement to share with you something that he/she asks me to help explain to you, or to pass on a suggestion that he/she/they would like you to consider.

You agree that you would like me to write to your child(ren) after you have explained to him/her about the invitation to come and meet with me, so that he/she expects to receive a letter of invitation from me (you are welcome to approve my letter in advance, if you wish)

You agree that in signing this letter that you will not

* 1. tell or suggest to your child(ren) what he or she should, or should not, say to me;
	2. ask your child(ren) to tell you afterwards what he or she said to me;
	3. Reproach your child(ren) or show negative feelings if you should feel unhappy about something he/she/they asked me to explain to you.

You agree to these arrangements and that I will now write to your child(ren) to invite him/her/them to meet with me.

You do/do not need to approve the mediator’s letter of invitation to be sent to our child/ren.

We agree to the above terms which we have read and understood:

Signed: …………………………… Signed …………………………….

Date: Date: