



About Maidstone Mediation...

- Maidstone Mediation Scheme is a Registered Charity No. 1052104
- Maidstone Mediation also offers free services for...
 - people with neighbour disputes
 - victims of crimes and offenders
 - peer mediation training for young people
 - parent teenager disputes
 - young people facing homelessness



Maidstone Mediation is supported by:

The Children's Fund

Kent YOS

Kent Police

Maidstone Borough Council

Maidstone Housing Trust



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Client Comments...

"It was brilliant!"

"School attendance greatly improved as a result of mediation."

"This is probably the happiest I have seen these pupils together."



Peer Mediation in Primary Schools

WHAT THE SCHOOL MUST PROVIDE...

- An ethos sympathetic to Mediation, i.e. problem solving and equal opportunity.
- A member of staff responsible for the scheme.
- Commitment from all staff to encourage the pupils to use the scheme.
- A suitable room.
- In school publicity for the school Mediation service.
- An identified time when the Mediation can take place.
- A plan for how referrals take place.
- A plan for how the Peer Mediators can report to staff when there is a problem.



Peer Mediation

Why develop peer mediation in schools?

- It teaches life skills to all students
- It promotes an ethos of problem solving and co-operation.
- It raises self esteem and self confidence.
- It develops empathy and valuing others.
- It gives opportunities to young people to take responsibility.
- It opens discussions on bullying and how it can be dealt with.
- It increases integration and social skills.
- It promotes equal opportunities because everyone is respected.
- It allows young people to resolve conflicts for themselves without involving adults - so saving teacher time.

Peer mediators are young people trained to use a scripted process to help others sort out petty playground disputes.

We talk to the whole of Year 6 about friendships, conflicts and the principles of Mediation. Then we take a selected group of about 10 or 12 and train them further to become Peer Mediators.

The process of mediation is simple and anyone can follow it to help others to reach an agreement - *but the right attitude is vital!*

Qualities of a good mediator:

- Being a good listener
- Empathetic
- Non judgemental
- Non-directive
- Discreet
- Impartial
- Able to use a problem solving approach to disagreements
- Able to help the clients find their own answers to disputes

Children welcome Peer Mediation in their school because they recognise it as being a fair process resulting in a win-win solution for both parties.