

Family Mediation Week 2026: Invitation for submissions from potential speakers



Family Mediation Week will take place from 26 – 30 January 2026.

The aim of the week is to increase awareness and understanding of family mediation, the way it works and its benefits to separating or separated families. The Family Mediation Council hosts a series of events throughout the week, usually online, that are designed to achieve this.

Family Mediation Week has grown over recent years, with its online events attracting over 4000 people in 2025.

Ahead of FMW 2026, the Family Mediation Council is again inviting submissions from those who are interested in speaking at an FMC event during Family Mediation Week, in order to offer mediators and others an opportunity to submit their own ideas for relevant topics, and either to speak about this themselves or to arrange for other interesting speakers to do so.

If you are interested in speaking or arranging speakers to talk about a particular topic during an FMC hosted Family Mediation Week event, please complete [the submission form](#) and return it to projects@familymediationcouncil.org.uk together with headshots of speakers by 19 September 2025.

We also invite all potential speakers to complete an [Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form](#).

The FMC's Family Mediation Week working group, which consists of volunteers, will then use the submissions to identify sessions that will help promote family mediation and the week itself. If there are more submissions than speaking slots, the working group will decide speakers on the basis of: diversity of speakers, target audience and topics throughout the week; likely reach of the proposed session; speaker credentials.

Speakers will be confirmed in October 2025.

Please note:

- We encourage submissions from all mediators, but in particular people who haven't spoken during Family Mediation Week or at similar events before. If you have an idea of a session you would like to run, but are not feeling confident in delivering it, we will offer support and tips for doing so. If you are working towards accreditation and would like to run a session for a particular audience, we will try to help find an FMCA mediator who can deliver the session alongside you.
- Proposals for sessions must include at least two speakers.

- By submitting a proposal, you are agreeing to act as the co-ordinator for that session. You do not have to speak at it yourself, but you must have secured agreement of at least two proposed speakers and take responsibility for ensuring the session is prepared, including submitting slides/session information etc to the FMC.
- Sessions for members of the public or other professionals will be in webinar format, and should generally consist of a presentation about 25-30 mins long with 15 – 20 mins for questions.
- Sessions will be recorded, and all or part of these may be made available by the FMC on its website, You Tube channel, or other platforms, after Family Mediation Week, to promote and encourage people to learn about Family Mediation.
- Speakers must be aware of and clear about the FMC's existing professional standards, including its Codes of Practice. We would welcome discussion about aspects of those standards where presenters made clear their personal views differed from existing standards, if it was appropriate for a particular audience, but presentations must be accurate.
- Where we received submissions on related issues, we may invite proposed speakers to run a session jointly, or create a panel or similar session so that different voices can be heard.
- FMC events will be promoted as widely as the FMC's resources allow within each target audience. The FMC will provide marketing material for speakers, who are expected to provide headshots and short bios for the preparation of that material, and who are also expected and encouraged to promote events to their own network. If you are selected to speak in Family Mediation Week, we will ask you to provide this information by mid-October.
- The FMC will provide a template FMW slide deck for speakers to use. Speakers may add their own details/those of the firms they work for to these slides.
- The FMC invites sponsorship of Family Mediation Week, in order to increase the resources available to promote FMW and its events. From time to time the FMC may arrange for a sponsor to Chair sessions, as part of sponsorship arrangements.