

# Creating a Parenting Plan

## Areas of Consideration

A well-designed parenting plan should be comprehensive and detailed. These plans are created by the co-parents and often in conjunction with other professionals such as mediators and lawyers (not through Family Service Toronto). The plan should include strategies to eliminate or minimize situations that may cause conflict, such as:

1. Transportation arrangements for the child/children between homes.
2. Planning for parents' involvement and attendance at the child's school functions.
3. Making plans for special occasions (birthdays, extended family events, Mother's Day, Father's Day, religious holidays, summer schedules, and trips abroad).
4. Determining effective sharing of information about the children.
5. Coordinating parents' participation in the child's extracurricular activities.
6. Scheduled telephone access.
7. Establishing guidelines for changes to the child's appearance, (haircuts or earrings), while in the care of either parent.
8. Ensuring smooth transfer of the child's clothes, belonging, and school books between homes.
9. Protocols for dropoffs and pickups.

