

WHAT IS THE FAMILY COURT?

The Family Court is in a part of the Royal Court, known as the Family Division.

Family Court

Before the Family Registrars

There are two Registrars (Judges) and a Family Proceedings Officer.

The lower family court deals with private family issues such as:

- Divorce applications (and the children and money problems that can happen when couples divorce)
- Civil partnership dissolution applications (and the children and money problems that can happen when couples end their partnership)
- Children applications (such as where a child lives, and what contact they have, money issues, a wishing to move with the child(ren) to another country)
- Adoption applications

Royal Court

Before the Bailiff, Deputy Bailiff, Commissioners and Jurats.

The higher court hears cases such as:

- public law cases involving families and the Children's Service
- domestic violence injunctions
- private law cases that have been referred up to the higher court by a Registrar
- very urgent (or ex parte) applications (ex parte means that an application is made without the other party being informed)