

## MOVING CHILDREN ABROAD

Sometimes children have to face up to moving away from where they are used to living. This can be due to a parent's circumstances changing, due to a job offer or due to a parent wanting to go "home".

The Court has to consider a number of things when making decisions about such moves. The things the Court will examine include –

- The purpose for the move - is it a genuine reason?
- The effect of refusing the move?
- The effect on the child or children of refusing the move
- The nature of the country or area the children will move to – is it a modern country with similar facilities to the UK or is it "dangerous" or unsuitable in some way?
- Also, and importantly, the effect on the children's relationship with the separated parent when they move to another country – how will contact be maintained?

The issues are all serious. Whether you are asking to move from the UK or trying to stop children moving from the UK – we can help. Before you apply we can advise you as to what you need to do and what information you will need to have available for the Court to consider. If you are trying to stop your children being moved we can show you how best to do that and what the Court will need in terms of evidence to best present your case.

Even if your children are to be moved from the UK and the Court makes an order allowing that to happen – we can help with how best to approach the issues of contact. Using SKYPE, email, paying for travel costs, ensuring orders for contact are complied with despite the children living abroad and ensuring your right to see the children is maintained.

We can, as always, help with every stage of the proceedings from the first advice through to the final hearing.