

HONG KONG FAMILY COURT TABLES

2023-2024

DUXBURY ETC 香港家事法概覽

a practical guide to family law and courts

家事法訴訟人必須知的法律資訊

HONG KONG FAMILY COURT TABLES 2023-2024

Indispensable Information for
Litigants and Legal Practitioners
in the Family Courts

v.1.6

AUTHORS & EDITORS

Azan Marwah

BSc (Hons) (LSE), MSc (LSE), LLB (USC, LSE), PCLL (HKU), Mediator (CEDR)

Barrister-at-Law, Hong Kong (2012)

Azan is a barrister and mediator specialising in family, public and commercial law at [Pantheon Chambers](#). He is a published expert on family and child law, a co-author of Hong Kong Family Court Practice (2ed) and contributor to Atkins Court Forms, Halsbury's Laws of Hong Kong, Archbold, the White Book, and Chitty on Contracts (HK). He is the co-author and General Editor of 'Duxbury Etc'.

Shaphan Marwah

BSc (Hons) (LSE), PCLL (HKU), Collaborative Practitioner

Barrister-at-Law, Hong Kong (2014)

Shaphan is a barrister and mediator specialising in family and commercial litigation at [Pantheon Chambers](#). He is an expert on matrimonial finance and child law, a co-author of Hong Kong Family Court Practice (2ed), and contributor to Archbold and the White Book. He is the co-author and Editor of the English edition of 'Duxbury Etc'.

Wong Hiu Chong

BBA (Hons) (CUHK), MSSc (CUHK), CPE (MMU), PCLL (HKU)

Solicitor, Hong Kong (2011)

Hiu Chong is a practicing solicitor at [Patricia Ho & Associates](#) specialising in family, public and equal opportunities law and Editor of the Chinese edition of 'Duxbury Etc'.

CONTRIBUTORS

Josh Baker

MA (Cantab), LL.M(HR) (HKU), PCLL (HKU)

Barrister-at-Law, Hong Kong (2019)

Josh is a barrister and author of several family law publications. He practices in all areas of family law and frequently in matters which involve an immigration or fundamental rights dimension.

Jerome McDonagh

MSc, FCCA, CFE, CVA, MAE

Jerome is a director at [MDD Forensic Accountants](#) focusing on matters related to business valuation, damages quantification and fraud investigations. His practice in family law matters

also includes investigations and analysis of spouses' financial affairs and Duxbury calculations. Jerome has acted as an expert witness in Hong Kong and UK Court proceedings. He is a Chartered Accountant (UK), Certified Fraud Examiner (USA), Certified Valuation Analyst (USA) and a member of the Academy of Experts (UK).

Emmanuel Benami

LLB (HKU), PCLL (HKU)

Barrister-at-Law, Hong Kong (2018)

Emmanuel is a barrister specialising in family, personal injuries and commercial litigation. He holds a specialisation in corporate, commercial and financial laws.

Peter Zhu

LLB (XJTU), JD (HKU), BCL (Oxon), PCLL (CUHK)

Barrister-at-Law, Hong Kong (2021); PRC Bar (2020)

Peter is a barrister specialising in cross-border divorce, probate and commercial dispute resolution. His practice includes PRC related financial and securities litigation, commercial arbitration and litigation, and matrimonial financial matters. He is qualified in both Hong Kong and Mainland China.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the following for their contribution towards this publication:

The Hong Kong Family Law Association
MDD Forensic Accountants

First edition published in Hong Kong in 2019

Second edition published in Hong Kong in 2020

Third edition published in Hong Kong in 2021

Fourth edition published in Hong Kong in 2022

Fifth edition published in Hong Kong in 2023

Copyright © Azan Marwah & Shaphan Marwah 2023. All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, without the prior permission in writing of the authors, nor be otherwise circulated in any form of binding or cover other than that which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

Permission is hereby granted, free of charge, to any person obtaining a copy of this publication, to copy this publication solely for personal, non-commercial use and subject to the following conditions:

1. The above copyright notice and this permission notice shall be included in all copies or copies of substantial portions of the publication.
2. Acknowledgement to the authors shall be included in all copies or copies of substantial portions of the publication.
3. You shall indemnify the authors, publishers and contributors against any allegations or claims of infringement of the rights of any person and all costs, losses, damages and liabilities incurred by the authors, publishers and contributors, which in any case arise directly or indirectly in relation to your use, reproduction and/or distribution of the publication.
4. You acknowledge the materials within this publication are for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice.
5. You acknowledge that you should seek legal or other professional advice before acting or relying on any of the content.
6. You acknowledge that you should contact a solicitor to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem.
7. You acknowledge that use of this publication and the material within it does not create a solicitor-client relationship between its authors, contributors, publishers and the reader.

Further copies of this publication and future editions may be retrieved from the Hong Kong Family Law Association (<https://hkfla.hk/>) or by visiting www.duxburyetc.hk.

If you have comments or suggestions, please feel free to write to the authors at admin@duxuryetc.hk. We welcome your feedback.

DISCLAIMERS

The materials within this publication are for informational purposes only and not for the purpose of providing legal advice. It does not constitute professional advice, whether legal or otherwise, and does not purport to be comprehensive. You should seek legal or other professional advice before acting or relying on any of the content. You should contact a solicitor to obtain advice with respect to any particular issue or problem. Use of this publication and the material within it do not create a solicitor-client relationship between its authors, contributors, publishers and the reader. The opinions expressed at or through this publication are the opinions of the individual authors and contributors and may not reflect the opinions of the Hong Kong Family Law Association or any other party.

Although care has been taken to ensure the reliability of the contents of this publication, neither the authors, nor the distributors, nor the printers, nor the publishers nor the contributors warrant their accuracy. Neither do they have any liability, obligation or responsibility whatsoever for any loss, destruction or damage (including without limitation consequential loss, destruction or damage) howsoever arising from or in respect of your use or misuse of or reliance on or inability to use any contents herein. Use of external and hyperlinked websites is strictly at the user's own risk, and the user acknowledges that the authors and contributors bear no liability for such use.

The Duxbury tables produced herein are merely illustrative. The authors and contributors do not make any representation that the assumptions underlying the Duxbury tables are correct or appropriate to any given circumstances.

Table C: Life Expectancy Tables 2023 is reproduced with permission from data published by the Census and Statistics Department of the HKSAR. This website/product/service contains information that is copied or extracted from data made available by the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (the "Government") at <https://DATA.GOV.HK/> ("DATA.GOV.HK"). The provision of information copied or extracted from or a link to DATA.GOV.HK at this website or in relation to the product or service shall not constitute any form of co-operation or affiliation by the Government with any person in relation to this website, the product or the service or any contents herein. Nothing in this website, the product or the service shall give rise to any representation, warranty or implication that the Government agrees with, approves of, recommends or endorses any contents of this website or the product or the service. The Government does not have any liability, obligation or responsibility whatsoever for any loss, destruction or damage (including without limitation consequential loss, destruction or damage) howsoever arising from or in respect of your use or misuse of or reliance on or inability to use any contents herein.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Authors & Editors	3
Contributors	3
Acknowledgements	4
Disclaimers	6
Table of Contents	7
Foreword to 5ed	12
Note from the HK Family Law Association	13
Preface to 5ed	14
Concepts	15
Adoption	15
Ancillary Relief	15
Child Custody	17
Divorce	18
Domestic Violence	21
Surrogacy	22
Family Law Glossary	24
Family Statutes & Practice Directions	34
Family Caselaw	37
Abduction	38
Access/contact	40
Adjournment	41
Alternative Dispute Resolution	41
Adoption	41
Appeals	42
Attachment of income	43
Bankruptcy orders	43
Best interests / welfare principle / checklist	44
Calderbank offers	44
Case management	45
Change of names	46
Charging orders	46

Child abuse	46
Child maintenance	47
‘Child of the family’	47
Chinese customary adoptions	47
Committal for contempt	48
Computation / non-marital assets	48
Costs in children’s matters	49
Costs in matrimonial matters	49
Custody, care and control	50
Decree absolute application	51
Delay / extensions of time	51
Departure from equality	52
Disclosure / discovery: ancillary relief	53
Disclosure / discovery: children	53
Divorce – grounds	53
Divorce – procedure	54
Domestic violence	54
Duxbury calculations	55
Equality and sharing	55
Evidence, experts and SIRs in children’s matters	55
Financial dispute resolution	56
Foreign divorce, financial relief	57
Forum (non) conveniens	57
Guardianship	57
Hadkinson orders	57
Immigration / fundamental rights	58
Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Ordinance	58
Judgment summonses	59
Judicial communication	59
Judicial interviews with children	59
Jurisdiction	59
Legal Aid	61

Legal representation for children	61
Length of marriage	61
LGBT families	61
Maintenance pending suit / Interim maintenance	62
Mareva Injunctions (in the matrimonial context)	63
Marital agreements (nuptial agreements)	63
Marriage	64
Marriages under Chinese Law and Custom	65
McKenzie friends	65
Needs	65
Next friends	65
Non-removal orders	65
No order principle	66
Nullity	66
Official Solicitor	66
Parentage	66
Parental rights and authority	67
Party and party costs	67
Periodical payments	67
Prohibition Orders	68
Relocation / permanent removal	68
Section 18 declarations	69
Security for costs	69
Setting aside agreements	69
Setting aside decrees	69
Setting aside transactions: s 17 MPPO	70
Shared residence	70
Soft loans	70
Surrogacy / human assisted reproduction	71
Temporary removal from jurisdiction	71
Third parties and trusts	72
Undertakings	72

Variation	72
Wardship	73
Wasted costs	74
Duxbury Tables	75
Converting periodical payments into a Lump Sum (authors)	75
Introduction to Duxbury Calculations (MDD)	75
Table A: Duxbury Tables - Life Expectancy	78
Table B: Duxbury Tables - Fixed Period	80
Table C: Life Expectancy Tables 2023 (CSD)	82
Costs Tables	84
Taxation: Judiciary Guide to Solicitors' Hourly Rates	84
Legal Aid Financial Tables	85
Tax	87
MPF	88
CSSA	89
Education	92
Day Care	92
Education System	92
Student Financial Assistance	93
International School Fees (2023-24)	93
Childhood Timeline	105
Websites	108
ADR	108
Children	108
Abduction	108
Adoption	108
Child protection	109
Children's rights	109
Education & Child Care	109
Health services	109
Social welfare groups	109
Other	109
Domestic Violence	110
Government services	110
NGOs	110
Financial	110
Legal Assistance	111

Legal Reference	111
Marriage	112
Contacts	113
Adoption	113
Alternative Dispute Resolution	113
Co-parenting Support Centres	114
Counselling and Emotional Support	115
Domestic Violence	116
Temporary accommodation	116
Telephone hotlines for women	116
Telephone hotlines for men	117
Judiciary, Government and Legal Assistance	117
Marriage	118
Addressing Judicial Officers	120
Family Court Forms	123
Court Calendar	133
Local School Calendar	133
International School Calendars	133

FOREWORD TO 5ED

I am delighted to have been invited to write a Foreword for the fifth edition of this publication, which is again the result of the combination of deep and wide research, professional collaboration and public spiritedness.

The genesis of this publication lay in the recognition that family law is constantly changing, but both legal and factual information can be difficult to find, expensive to obtain, and complicated to understand. Hence the decision to create a publication which is written in plain language in both English and Chinese, is concise and practical (with summaries, a glossary, and lists of relevant cases), and is made freely available to the public.

Previous editions have expanded and updated the cases, glossary, tables and other useful information, which permits family law practitioners – be they solicitors, barristers or judges – and the public to keep themselves up to date with changes in the law. Each edition adds improvement, such as the addition of a guide to court forms, all hyperlinked. This fifth edition, for example, adds a list of co-parenting courses (including those available online), and provides case law on matters relating to forced marriage and LGBT families. As before, I anticipate that these improvements will continue to be regularly updated.

Once again, the authors, contributors, the HKFLA and sponsors who have assisted in bringing this fifth edition into being are deserving of praise. This publication continues to demonstrate the real commitment of those who work in the field of family law to improving family justice in Hong Kong, not least by facilitating access to justice and offering help to resolve family disputes.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Coleman
3 August 2023

NOTE FROM THE HK FAMILY LAW ASSOCIATION

I am very honoured to have been invited again to write a note of introduction for the 5th Edition of Duxbury Etc., Hong Kong Family Court Tables 2023-2024, which has proven itself to be a very useful tool to family law practitioners over the years since its first edition published in 2019.

This publication is a great companion for all who are involved in family law practice, especially for lay clients and litigants in persons who do not usually have access or know how to access to this information. Such information is in fact useful for them to gain an overview of the current situation in family law, and form a more realistic expectation to the outcome, which will no doubt be helpful in facilitating amicable negotiation and settlement.

Since it landed in 2019, this publication has provided a great deal of convenience to both family law practitioners and the public. It serves as a concise practical guide containing basic family law concepts, glossary, statutes, practice directions, and court forms, but also updated case law, useful tables and all other useful information which are condensed into one single volume set out in a format that is easy to understand, easily accessible and convenient to use.

Thanks to the dedication of the authors, contributors, the HKFLA and sponsors, this publication has become a valuable resource and will no doubt continue to be one of the essential publications and valuable tool to family law practitioners. I understand that paper copies will be available for this edition which will no doubt be very welcomed by all end users, especially the public.

Lisa Wong
Partner, Charles Russell Speechlys LLP
Chair, Hong Kong Family Law Association
10 June 2023

PREFACE TO 5ED

Hong Kong Family Court Tables, affectionately ‘Duxbury Etc’, is a public interest project made possible through the support of our authors, contributors, sponsors and the Hong Kong Family Law Association (HKFLA). It remains the only reference work to be published freely by family lawyers for the public. We publish in both English and Chinese because the law should be accessible to all, regardless of language. It is not intended to be an exhaustive or in-depth examination of the law (that is left to others). Our aim is simple: to make the resolution of family disputes less costly and less destructive. We hope to do this by empowering our readers to do their own research, to quickly educate themselves on the law and facts relevant to most family law disputes. To assist the reader, wherever possible, freely available Internet-based resources are hyperlinked in the text.

In 2023, with the worst of the Pandemic behind us, our goal is to restart our intended yearly tradition of printing paper copies and distributing them to the public. Our first foray into print was a huge success, with tremendously positive feedback from the public and the professions. The Pandemic stifled our plans. This year, we will be producing a slimmed down print version (by removing the case law tables) that will be more accessible and lighter in weight. It is envisaged that readers will use the print version in tandem with our online PDF version.

In terms of legal updates, there were significant advances in the case law from adoption to change of surnames. For example, *RM v AY* [\[2023\] HKFC 59](#), which is notable for its confirmation that Sharia marriages in Pakistan are subject to Hong Kong divorce jurisdiction and as the first forced marriage case in Hong Kong history. Looking to the future, the HKFLA conducted a wonderful mock trial, inviting the authors to debate the differences in approach to Duxbury calculations – where we learned that the Government is considering introducing a Duxbury committee.

This edition includes timely updates to our usual material: a Family Law Glossary (explaining the archaic lexicon of the family courts), summaries of the essential Concepts (introducing the fundamental structure of each of the main areas of family law), and a list of essential Family Statutes, and our lists of indispensable Family Case Law and helpful Websites, a guide to Family Court Forms with hyperlinks to the rules, procedures and forms arranged by subject, and our signature Duxbury Tables (allowing easier calculation of lump sum payments, tailored for Hong Kong) to make them more user friendly by issuing a single set of tables based on the formulas approved by the High Court in *Chan Pak Ting v Chan Chi Kuen (No 2)* [2013] 2 HKLRD 1, [\[2013\] HKCFI 179](#).

Thanks go to our families (Sai, Zainab, Ho Tak, Amy, Wallis) for their support, MDD Forensic Accountants for providing us with their Duxbury tables, and to the Hon Mr Justice Coleman for the kind foreword. A special note of thanks goes to our generous (anonymous) friend who has supported our print edition by professionally preparing the manuscript.

Azan Marwah
27 July 2023

CONCEPTS

Adoption

Adoption in Hong Kong is governed by the [Adoption Ordinance, Cap 290](#). Adoption vests legal parenthood in adoptive parents over an unmarried child or children under 18 years of age, and brings an end to all legal parenthood otherwise vested in natural parents ([section 13](#)). It is effected by order of the court ([section 4](#)) and it is generally permanent and irreversible. Foreign adoptions may be recognised in Hong Kong under [sections 17](#) and [20F](#).

Local adoptions may only be arranged by the court (see *Mrs B v Official Solicitor* [[2021 HKCFI 3534](#)]), relatives (see definition in [s 2](#)), the Director of Social Welfare or bodies accredited by the Director ([s 23A](#)) (see list under [Adoption](#) in our [Contacts](#) list). It is an offence to advertise a child for adoption ([s 23](#)).

Relatives may adopt locally from the age of 21 ([section 5\(1\)\(b\)](#)) and need not undertake a suitability assessment, whereas non-relatives and relatives who wish to complete an intercountry adoption must be 25 years of age and must apply for a suitability assessment ([section 27](#)) to be conducted by the Director or an accredited body ([section 29](#)).

In the case of a local adoption, the consent of parents and guardians, which is generally required ([section 5\(5\)](#)) will then be obtained ([section 29A](#) or [29B](#)), unless it has been dispensed with ([section 6](#)). The child and prospective adoptive parents will be placed and matched together. Intercountry adoptions proceed in much the same way ([section 29C](#)).

Ultimately the court will determine whether an adoption order should be made, and must be satisfied that requisite guardian and parent consent has been obtained, that adoption would be in the child's best interests, that the adoptive parents are fit and proper persons and that no payment or reward has been exchanged ([section 8](#)). The court will normally pay regard to the 'Adoption Checklist': see [Director of Social Welfare v YPC \[2020\] HKCFI 2290](#).

Ancillary Relief

Hong Kong does not have a statutory matrimonial property regime as such. There is no system of 'community of property' and property rights are not in principle affected by marriage. Instead, the family courts have very broad discretion to make a range of financial orders upon a decree of divorce pursuant to the [Matrimonial Proceedings and Property Ordinance \(Cap 192\)](#), namely for: **periodical payments**, secured periodical payments, **lump sum payments**, transfers or sale of property, settlement of property (into a trust), and variation of settlements.

Courts also have the power to make temporary orders for **maintenance pending suit** once divorce proceedings have begun. These are interim measures that will end once the final divorce decree is granted: see [section 3 of Cap 192](#). In such applications, it is usually not appropriate to undertake a detailed financial investigation. The sole criterion applied by the courts is "reasonableness" or "fairness", and the marital living standard is but one important factor. The applicant should provide an "MPS budget" excluding long-term / capital

expenditure: see [HJFG v KCY \[2011\] HKCA 402; \[2012\] 1 HKLRD 95](#). Temporary payment towards a party's legal costs can also be ordered when they cannot reasonably be raised otherwise: for details on what should be included in such an application see [WW v LLN \[2020\] HKCA 178](#).

In making *final* financial orders in favour of a spouse, courts are guided by four principles: (i) the objective of fairness, (ii) rejection of discrimination, (iii) the yardstick of equal division, and (iv) rejection of minute retrospective investigation: see [LKW v DD \[2010\] HKCFA 70; \[2010\] 6 HKC 528](#). They are also *required* to consider the following non-exhaustive list of factors (see [section 7\(1\) of Cap 192](#)):

the conduct of the parties and all the circumstances of the case including the following matters, that is to say —

- (a) *the income, earning capacity, property and other financial resources which each of the parties to the marriage has or is likely to have in the foreseeable future;*
- (b) *the financial needs, obligations and responsibilities which each of the parties to the marriage has or is likely to have in the foreseeable future;*
- (c) *the standard of living enjoyed by the family before the breakdown of the marriage;*
- (d) *the age of each party to the marriage and the duration of the marriage;*
- (e) *any physical or mental disability of either of the parties to the marriage;*
- (f) *the contributions made by each of the parties to the welfare of the family, including any contribution made by looking after the home or caring for the family;*
- (g) *in the case of proceedings for divorce or nullity of marriage, the value to either of the parties to the marriage of any benefit (for example, a pension) which, by reason of the dissolution or annulment of the marriage, that party will lose the chance of acquiring.*

In making final orders for children, the courts are required to consider another non-exhaustive list of factors (see [section 7\(2\) of Cap 192](#)):

all the circumstances of the case including the following matters, that is to say —

- (a) *the financial needs of the child;*
- (b) *the income, earning capacity (if any), property and other financial resources of the child;*
- (c) *any physical or mental disability of the child;*
- (d) *the standard of living enjoyed by the family before the breakdown of the marriage;*
- (e) *the manner in which he was being and in which the parties to the marriage expected him to be educated;*

and so to exercise those powers as to place the child, so far as it is practicable and, having regard to the considerations mentioned in relation to the parties to the marriage in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1), just to do so, in the financial position in which the child would have been if the marriage had not broken down and each of those parties had properly discharged his or her financial obligations and responsibilities towards him.

There are five steps in the “**section 7 exercise**” leading to a final order. The first step is to identify the parties' financial resources and liabilities. The second step is to assess the parties' financial needs “generously interpreted”. If there are sufficient resources for both parties'

financial needs, courts will then decide to apply the ‘sharing principle’, and the fourth step is to consider whether there are good reasons to depart from equal division of the family assets. Finally, the courts will then determine the outcome of the financial proceedings.

The identification of the parties’ assets can involve disputes about (i) valuation, as well as (ii) whether certain assets are in fact beneficially owned by a third party or (iii) have been wrongfully transferred by one of the parties: see [section 17 of Cap 192](#). The latter two are usually dealt with before the Financial Dispute Resolution (FDR) as ‘preliminary issues’: see [TL v ML \[2005\] EWHC 2860 \(Fam\); \[2006\] 1 FLR 1263](#).

The parties’ financial needs are a question of fact for the court. However, in most cases their main needs will be for housing and a regular income. Parties’ needs should be “generously interpreted” to try to ensure that they and their children can maintain, as far as possible, the standard of living enjoyed during the marriage. If the assets are insufficient, a ‘clean break’ may not be possible, and the court may order periodical payments.

Where the financial resources exceed the parties’ needs, the courts will apply the sharing principle. Reasons to depart from equality may include: the source of the assets (e.g. pre-marital assets, inheritances, unilateral / separate assets, and assets generated post-separation); “gross and obvious” conduct (the courts are not concerned with deciding why a marriage failed); parties financial needs (such as child/elderly care, a diminished capacity to find work, or a physical/mental disability); the length of the marriage; contributions to the welfare of the family (the courts have firmly rejected any discrimination on the basis of gender roles, and only in rare and exceptional circumstances will “stellar” or “special” contribution play a role); and compensation for relationship-generated disadvantages (this is generally covered by the sharing principle, but may be justified in exceptional cases).

In order to promote settlement and the speedy resolution of financial disputes upon divorce, the courts have adopted [PD 15.11](#), which requires parties to fill out and exchange a ‘**Form E**’ sworn financial statement, and provides for judge-led mediation (i.e. a **Financial Dispute Resolution** or ‘**FDR**’ hearing). Parties have a duty to make full and frank disclosure of their assets, and courts may make adverse inferences against parties who fail to do so.

Child Custody

The family courts have broad jurisdiction to deal with the welfare of children under the provisions of the [Guardianship of Minors Ordinance \(Cap 13\)](#) (GMO), the [Separation and Maintenance Orders Ordinance \(Cap 16\)](#), the [Matrimonial Causes Ordinance \(Cap 179\)](#) and the [Matrimonial Property and Proceedings Ordinance \(Cap 192\)](#). Additionally, the High Court’s has broad powers under its **inherent jurisdiction** including wardship. Such relief is not limited to married parents: unmarried fathers can seek custody and their rights through s.3(1)(d) of the GMO (see e.g. [BGPB v KSW \[2021\] HKCFI 899; \[2021\] 2 HKLRD 458](#)) and same-sex partners can seek guardianship and custody through wardship (see e.g. [AA v BB \[2021\] HKCFI 1401](#)).

In parental disputes, generally the courts are concerned with making orders for **custody, care and control**, and **access**. These orders are distinct from questions of financial responsibility for children (i.e. ‘**maintenance**’). Access is the right to have contact with the child, it may be

unsupervised or supervised (i.e. where there are concerns about the impact of contact on the child); undefined (sometimes ‘reasonable’ or ‘generous’) or defined (i.e. at times specified in the order); staying (a.k.a. overnight) or ‘day-time’. Care and control is the right to make day-to-day decisions about the child; it should not be confused with “shared care” and the notion of the primary caregiver. Custody is the right to make all important decisions affecting the child and it is generally awarded to one parent (“sole custody”) or shared between both parents (“joint custody”): see [PD v KWW \(Joint Custody, Care and Control\) \[2010\] 4 HKLRD 191; \[2010\] HKCA 172](#). Non-parents may also be appointed as guardians, and receive other orders with respect to a child (e.g. custody, care & control, access): see e.g. [AA v BB \[2021\] HKCFI 1401](#).

The paramount consideration for the court is always the welfare (or ‘best interests’) of the child, this is known as the **Welfare Principle** (see [section 3 of Cap 13](#)). In determining the best interests of the child, the court will generally have regard to the **Welfare Checklist**, i.e. the ascertainable wishes and feelings of the child concerned (considered in the light of the child’s age and understanding); the physical, emotional and educational needs of the child; the likely effect on the child of any change in the child’s circumstances; the child’s age, sex, background and any characteristics of the child’s which the court considers relevant; any harm the child has suffered or is at risk of suffering; how capable each of the parents, and any other person in relation to whom the court considers the question to be relevant, is of meeting the child’s needs; the range of powers available to the court in the proceedings in question; and the general principle that any delay is likely to prejudice the welfare of the child: see [H v N \[2012\] 5 HKLRD 498; \[2012\] HKCFI 1533](#).

To support mothers and fathers and ensure the best interests of children, the courts have adopted [Practice Direction 15.13](#), which created the **Children’s Dispute Resolution (CDR)** scheme. The scheme applies to almost all disputed children’s matters, and provides that disputes must be submitted to the CDR procedure unless the court orders otherwise. The first stage of the scheme is a preliminary directions hearing before a judge (the **Children’s Appointment**), preceded by the exchange of a series of simplified and children-specific documents including a **Form J** (i.e. ‘Children’s Form’) (attached to Practice Direction 15.13), a sworn statement relating to the arrangements for children. The court will then make directions for the further conduct of the case and in most circumstances order a **CDR hearing** before referring the matter to trial. The CDR hearing is a form of alternative dispute resolution (‘**ADR**’), where the parties will have a chance to rehearse their arguments before the judge, who may give indications about her / his approach, and who will try to conciliate between parties to achieve settlement.

Divorce

Divorce is begun by **petition** or **joint application** to the **District (Family) Court** ([rule 12\(1\) of the Matrimonial Causes Rules \(Cap 179A\)](#)). It generally does not matter that the marriage was celebrated abroad. Unless in the unusual case of exceptional hardship, divorce may not be begun until parties have been **married for one year**, although a petition can be based on facts that occurred within the first year ([section 12 of the Matrimonial Causes Ordinance \(Cap 179\)](#)). A petition or joint application should be **filed with the Family Court Registry** together with the documents required by [rule 12 of Cap 179A](#) and copies for each party of the

petition/application, [Form 2B or 2D](#) statement as to arrangements for children, and [Form 3](#) notice of proceedings.

Service of the petition and accompanying documents should be effected on the respondent and each other party through solicitors if they are on record. They may be alternatively served personally or by ordinary post ([rule 14\(1\) of Cap 179A](#)), although personal service may not be performed by the petitioner themselves ([rule 14\(3\)](#)). Service is generally proved by an acknowledgment of service (Form 4) or affidavit showing personal service ([rules 14\(5\) and \(7\)](#)). An order for **deemed service** may be granted where the petitioner can show that the respondent has nevertheless received the documents ([rule 14\(6\)](#)). Where genuine efforts have been made and where service is **impracticable**, an order for **substituted service** may be granted on ex parte application by affidavit ([rules 14\(9\) to \(10\)](#)). A decree is voidable and may be set aside where an order for substituted service is improperly obtained ([FHFK v NCM \[2008\] 5 HKC 355; \[2008\] HKCA 254](#)). By way of exception to the usual rule, **service out of the jurisdiction** is permitted without leave ([rule 109 of Cap 179A](#)). In rare cases service may also be **dispensed** with. At any time before service is effected, the petitioner may file a notice of discontinuance which will dismiss the cause ([rule 7 of Cap 179A](#)).

The court only has **jurisdiction** to deal with a divorce if at the date of the petition or application either party (1) is **domiciled** in Hong Kong, (2) has been **habitually resident** for the preceding three years, or (3) has a **substantial connection** to Hong Kong ([section 3 of Cap 179](#)). These concepts are helpfully explained in [ZC v CN \[2014\] 5 HKLRD 43; \[2014\] HKCA 389](#). The court may **have jurisdiction but decline to exercise it** in favour of a **foreign court** that is **clearly or distinctly more appropriate** than Hong Kong, and in which the petitioner will not be deprived of a legitimate personal or juridical advantage ([SPH v SA \(2014\) 17 HKCFAR 364; \[2014\] HKCFA 56 \[51\]](#)).

Domicile is governed by the [Domicile Ordinance \(Cap 596\)](#). All persons have a single domicile at any given time. Almost all persons born in Hong Kong who have not permanently relocated elsewhere will be domiciled in Hong Kong ([sections 5 and 7](#)). Expatriates acquire Hong Kong as their domicile if they are lawfully present here and intend to make their home here for an indefinite period ([sections 5 and 6](#)).

A party's **habitual residence** is her home, abode, dwelling or place of habitation where she has settled voluntarily. It is not affected by vacations or business trips. One may have more than one habitual residence and need not intend to remain permanently for this limb to be satisfied.

Substantial connection is not a technical term and is given an ordinary meaning, which is wider than both domicile and habitual residence and is highly fact sensitive. Accordingly, a broader range of factors relating to one's connection to Hong Kong will be considered, and the court will additionally be guided by the question of whether the connection merits the court assuming jurisdiction over the divorce. Hong Kong need not be the place that one has the *most* substantial connection, and comparisons with connections elsewhere are inapposite ([B v A \[2008\] 1 HKLRD 43; \[2007\] HKCFI 934](#)). The connection should generally be personal and related to the marriage, and not merely commercial ([Z v Z \[2012\] HKFLR 346; \[2012\] HKCFI 2117](#)). Having a Hong Kong Identity card, having been married in Hong Kong and having

worked here will assist a substantial connection claim ([YS v TTWD \[2012\] HKFLR 129; \[2012\] HKFC 6](#)).

The sole 'ground' of divorce is that the **marriage has broken down irretrievably** ([section 11 of Cap 179](#)), though the court may only grant a decree where one of **five facts** are proven ([section 11A of Cap 179](#)). The five facts are often also referred to as 'grounds' of divorce. They are that (1) the respondent has committed **adultery** and the petitioner **finds it intolerable to live with** the respondent (2) the respondent has **behaved** in such a way that the **petitioner cannot reasonably be expected to live with** the respondent (3) the parties have **lived apart for one year and the respondent consents** (4) the parties have **lived apart for two years** regardless of the respondent's consent (5) the respondent has **deserted** the petitioner for one year. In a **joint application**, only fact (3) is available *ie* that the parties have lived apart for one year preceding the application and both parties consent ([section 11B of Cap 179](#)).

A petition and joint application should contain particulars of the facts relied upon. Although facts (1) to (3) are conduct based, it is **never the court's role to apportion parties' responsibilities** for a broken marriage ([BCA v IOF \[2006\] HKCA 683](#) [13]) which, like blame, are irrelevant ([Owens v Owens \[2018\] AC 899, \[2018\] UKSC 41](#) [49]).

In a petition based on **fact (2) behaviour**, it is not the behaviour itself that has to be unreasonable, but rather living with the respondent (*Owens* [37], [47]) and the two are not causally connected *ie* the behaviour does not have to have caused the breakdown (*Owens* [41], [49]). Rather the court will ask (1) what the respondent did, by reference to the allegations in the petition; (2) what effect that behaviour had on the petitioner in all the circumstances; and then (3) evaluate whether as a result of the behaviour and in light of its effect, it would be unreasonable to expect the petitioner to live with the respondent (*Owens* [28], [47], [55]). Whether such an expectation is reasonable changes over time, in line with social and moral values (*Owens* [30]-[33], [47]).

Today it is 'very proper' to draft '**very moderate**' or **anodyne petitions** that invoke 'fact (2)' behaviour **using mild particulars** in order to satisfy the statute but nonetheless obtain the respondent's cooperation (although, as seen in *Owens*, the facts must be sufficient to prove unreasonable behaviour).

The court cannot make a decree nisi absolute until it has made a '**section 18 declaration regarding children**' under [section 18\(1\) of the Matrimonial Proceedings and Property Ordinance \(Cap 192\)](#). There are four declarations that permit a grant. They are that (1) there are no children of the family; (2) satisfactory or 'best in the circumstances' arrangements have been made for the welfare of each child of the family; (3) it is impracticable for either or both parties to make such arrangements, or (4) other circumstances make it desirable for a decree nisi or absolute to be made without delay, and satisfactory undertaking(s) have been obtained to bring the question of the children's arrangements before the court within a specified time. Opposition to an application for declarations (2) or (3) should be made on the basis of matters that relate to the children only, and will not suffice where they concern conduct or health where those matters to not affect the children ([TLS nee J v RCS \[2013\] HKFC 74](#) [24]-[40]).

A **child of the family** is either (1) a biological (including illegitimate) or adopted child of both parties or (2) another child treated by both parties as a child of the family (sections [2\(1\)](#) and

[18\(5\)](#) of Cap 192). Whether a child is ‘**treated as**’ a child of the family is a broad question of objective fact to be decided by looking at all the circumstances of the case, including where the child lives, who pays for the child, who exercises discipline and whether responsibilities are claimed ([LNL v HPYA \[2016\] 3 HKLRD 261; \[2016\] HKFC 51 \[11\]-\[14\]](#)).

If the divorce is **not contested** it will be assigned to the **special procedure list** and if matters are in order, and the petitioner has filed the affidavit in support of the petition swearing or affirming that the contents of the petition is true, a decree nisi will be pronounced in open court, at a hearing that the parties need not attend ([Practice Direction 15.4](#)).

Where a decree nisi is made on facts (3) or (4) *ie* that the parties are separated, the respondent may additionally delay the grant of the decree absolute by applying in Form 8A for the court to consider that the **respondent will be financially prejudiced** by the making of a decree absolute ([section 17A of Cap 179](#) and [rule 56B of Cap 179A](#)).

Six weeks after the decree nisi the petitioner may apply under [rule 65 of Cap 179A](#) for the decree to be made absolute, by lodging [Form 5](#) with the Registrar. In default the respondent may apply after three months ([section 17\(2\)\(a\)\(i\) of Cap 179](#)). On a **contested application for an order to be made absolute** the court will be guided by what is just and convenient, but will require exceptional circumstances to be alleged in opposition, and financial prejudice to be real ([J v V \[2013\] 1 HKLRD 203, \[2012\] HKCFI 1877 \[29\]](#)).

Where a divorce is defended or a cross petition filed alleging that the marriage has broken down by reference to a different fact, the matter will ultimately proceed to trial. It is ‘admirable’ however that the family justice system is based on compromise and settlement and that parties are encouraged to settle at every stage of the cause up to and including contested hearings.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence (also called family or intimate partner violence) can be broadly defined as violence or abuse in a domestic setting. It includes not only physical violence, but also a wide range of behaviours, such as: emotional abuse, verbal abuse, economic abuse, religious abuse, reproductive abuse, sexual abuse, controlling behavior, isolation, intimidation, and online abuse.

The [Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance \(Cap 189\)](#) (the **DCRVO**) provides injunctive relief (a protective order) for victims of domestic violence. The relief is ‘free-standing’ and need not be brought in proceedings for divorce or to enforce any other legal or equitable rights. The Ordinance offers protection from: spouses and former spouses, cohabitants and former cohabitants (including for same-sex couples), as well as a wide range of relatives (including parents, children, brothers, sisters, grandparents, uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews).

In order to obtain relief, the applicant must show the court that the applicant or a ‘specified minor’ (i.e. their child or a minor living with the applicant) has been ‘molested’ by the respondent. ‘**Molestation**’ has been given a very broad meaning and does not require threats or use of physical violence. It has been variously defined as: ‘to cause trouble’, ‘to vex’, ‘to annoy’, ‘to pester’, or any degree of harassment that calls for the intervention of the court.

Such behavior may include (for example) threats of violence, pushing and grabbing, pestering a party at their home or place of work, verbal abuse, damage and theft of property, and following / stalking, and may be done directly or through an agent.

The DCRVO provides for six types of relief: (i) **non-molestation orders** (prohibiting the respondent from continuing the molestation), (ii) **ouster orders** (excluding the respondent from entering a residence, part of a residence, or some other specified area such as a school or place of work), (iii) **re-entry orders** (to permit return to the home by the applicant/child), (iv) orders to participate in **mandatory counselling**, (v) authorizations of arrest (attached to orders prohibiting violence or ouster orders), and (vi) the power to vary or suspend a **custody or access order** for a child.

An **authorization of arrest** will only be attached if the court is satisfied that the respondent has caused 'actual bodily harm' or if it reasonably believes that the respondent is likely to cause actual bodily harm. Its purpose is to permit a police officer to arrest the respondent without a warrant on reasonable suspicion of *breaching the injunction* either through violence or entry into the prohibited area (rather than reasonable suspicion of an arrestable offence).

Applications under the DCRVO can be made by way of originating summons, or by summons in existing proceedings (e.g. in divorce proceedings), with an affidavit / affirmation in support (although these steps may not be possible in urgent cases). Applications may also be made *ex parte* where just and reasonable in the circumstances (see [Practice Direction 11.1](#)).

Applicants should consider applying for an urgent grant of legal aid for legal representation to bring proceedings under the DCRVO. They may also approach shelters and counselling services available through the Social Welfare Department and a number of NGOs.

Domestic violence (including child abuse) may also be relevant to child custody, care and control, and access applications in the Family Court as it may affect the best interests of the child and the ability of parties to co-parent. Where such an allegation is raised, parties are required to follow the procedures set out in the [Practice Direction SL10.1](#). Such allegations are to be considered at the earliest opportunity and appropriate directions made, including possibly a 'Fact Finding Hearing', and interim orders for access and custody and any protective orders under the DCRVO. The court will also consider whether or not there should be separate representation for the child.

Surrogacy

Commercial surrogacy is a crime in Hong Kong wherever it occurs in the world, by [sections 17](#) and [39\(1\)](#) of the [Human Reproductive Technology Ordinance, Cap 561](#). The offences are defined broadly and catch a wide range of conduct related to the making and receiving of payments in relation to surrogacy arrangements, though reimbursements for expenses are permitted. [Section 19](#) additionally makes surrogacy arrangements themselves – *ie* agreements between commissioning parents, surrogate mothers, and (often) third party service providers – unenforceable. Commissioning parents and surrogate mothers should therefore take advice on the nature and effect of their intended arrangements, in almost all cases.

A parental order will often be required to vest parenthood in the commissioning parents. By [section 9\(1\)](#) of the [Parent and Child Ordinance, Cap 429](#), the surrogate mother is regarded as the mother of the child. This provision applies wherever the arrangement took place and even in the case of gestational surrogacy, where the child is genetically descended from one or both of the commissioning parents. By [section 10\(2\)](#), the surrogate mother's husband is regarded as the child's father (unless he did not consent to the arrangement).

The effect of these provisions is that surrogate children's commissioning (and often genetic) parents lack parental rights and authority, which has obvious and significant administrative ramifications and which is in most instances demonstrably contrary to best interests. It can also mean that a child has two parents when outside of Hong Kong, but a different two when in Hong Kong.

Parental orders may be granted by the court under [section 12](#) of Cap 429. They reverse the effect of sections 9 and 10 and provide for the child to be regarded in law as the commissioning parents' child. Presently, the commissioning parents have to be in an opposite-sex marriage and over the age of 18 years in order to apply.

Applications have to be made within six months of the child's birth, though there is now a power to extend that period (*FH & MH v WB & HB* [2019] HKFLR 277, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1748](#)). Parties should be prepared to cogently explain any delay and show that the surrogate mother (and father) will not be prejudiced by the extension.

Additionally, both the husband and wife have to unconditionally agree to the order being made. Where a party refuses, the court cannot make a parental order and there will be a disconnect between the child's social and legal parentage. Parties can consider adoption, though absent or pending that, the court may invoke the inherent jurisdiction and make the child a ward of court "to fill the lacuna of the law until better arrangements are made as to their legal identities and status" (*S v J* [2017] 5 HKLRD, [\[2017\] HKCFI 1656](#)).

Thirdly, all payments made in relation to the surrogacy arrangement have to either be "expenses reasonably incurred" or otherwise authorised by the court. Receipts and detailed accounts should be kept by commissioning parents for this purpose. Care should be taken to ensure that surrogates are not commercially rewarded, though where this has happened, authorisation is still possible. The court will be anxious to know that the surrogate's will has not been overborn and that there has been no exploitation (*Re A* [2019] 5 HKLRD 366, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1749](#)).

Fourthly, it has recently been suggested that where a surrogacy arrangement takes place outside Hong Kong, expert evidence should be prepared showing whether or not surrogacy is permitted where it occurred, and how the parent / child relationship(s) are understood. This will assist the court with public policy question when deciding whether to grant a parental order (*Re A*).

Lastly, the Director of Immigration considers that Chinese nationality passes by blood or genetic tie, rather than delivery. Thus, children of gestational surrogacies may inherit permanent residency status under article 24(2) of the Basic Law: *S v J* (above) [31]-[39].

FAMILY LAW GLOSSARY

Access	The right of the child to see the non-custodial parent, or in the case of joint custody, the right of the child to see the parent without care and control. Sometimes called 'Contact'.
Acknowledgement of Service	The respondent to legal proceedings receives this standard court form along with the divorce petition (Form 4 in the Appendix to Cap 179A) (and some other originating process, e.g. an originating summons). The form must be completed by the respondent to acknowledge receipt of the petition. The respondent must declare on the form whether they intend to defend the petition.
Adoption	The process by which all parental rights and responsibilities for a child are transferred to adopters by the court. See the Adoption Ordinance (Cap 290) .
Adoption checklist	An aide-mémoire to the court listing important factors to consider when determining the welfare/best interests of the child in the context of adoption: see <i>Director of Social Welfare v YPC</i> [2020] HKCFI 2290 , [2020] 5 HKLRD 233 .
ADR or Alternative Dispute Resolution	Any means of settling disputes outside of the normal trial process.
Adultery	Voluntary act of sexual intercourse (penile-vaginal penetration) by a married person with a person of the opposite sex, other than his or her husband or wife. It is one of the five facts that, if proven, show grounds for divorce: section 11A of the Matrimonial Causes Ordinance (Cap 179) . It is also a defence to an order for judicial separation and maintenance under section 6 of the Separation and Maintenance Orders Ordinance (Cap 16) .
Affidavit or Affirmation	A sworn / affirmed written statement of evidence.
Ancillary relief	Applications for financial orders in matrimonial proceedings (divorce, judicial separation, nullity), including avoidance of disposition orders, lump sum orders, orders for maintenance pending suit, periodical payments orders, secured periodical payments orders, settlement of property orders, transfer of property orders, variation of settlement orders, or variation orders: section 2, Matrimonial Causes Rules (Cap 179A) .
Annulment	The dissolution of a marriage in legal proceedings in which the marriage is declared null and void as though it never occurred. An application for an annulment can be made by petition for nullity under section 19 of Cap 179 .
Anti-suit injunction	An application to restrain matrimonial proceedings in one country favour of proceedings in another country.
Answer	A written defence to a divorce petition.
Arbitration	A form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), whereby a dispute is referred for legally binding resolution by an independent neutral third party. Referral can be either mandatory (e.g. by prior agreement or under a statute) or voluntary (by agreement after the dispute has

	arisen). Arbitration is not currently available for family cases, however there is a similar, alternative procedure under the Practice Direction SL9 , called Private Adjudication of Financial Disputes in Matrimonial and Family Proceedings.
Attachment of income order	An order requiring periodical payments to be paid directly out of a person's income (e.g. by an employer).
Avoidance of disposition	An order under section 17 of Cap 192 setting aside a transfer of property made with the intention of defeating a claim for ancillary relief. Applicants may be assisted by a rebuttable presumption that there was such an intention where the property was disposed of within 3 years of the application. This is usually determined as a preliminary issue and to be dealt with at the early stage of a proceedings as it concerns the rights of third parties. See also 'TL v ML application'.
Barrister	A professional lawyer specialising in courtroom advocacy and litigation. Barristers are distinguished from solicitors (another branch of the legal profession), who have more direct access to clients, and may do transactional-type legal work. Barristers in the family court can generally only act with instructions from a solicitor. Generally, only barristers and solicitor advocates (i.e. specially qualified solicitors) may speak in 'Open Court'. Most family cases are heard in the family court in 'chambers'. Barristers of sufficient seniority may be appointed 'Senior Counsel' (previously known as Queen's Counsel) by the Chief Justice. Barristers are regulated by the Hong Kong Bar Association .
Care and control	Day-to-day control and responsibility for the care of a child.
Care or Protection Order (CPO)	An order granted under section 34 of the Protection of Children and Juveniles Ordinance (Cap 213) .
CDR or Children's Dispute Resolution hearing	A hearing under Practice Direction 15.13 , mandatory in most children's disputes, similar to FDR (Financial Dispute Resolution) with important differences. The objective is to allow parties a 'dry run' of their arguments before a judge, who may give an indication as to the likely approach of the court and outcomes. It serves as a less formal opportunity for the court to encourage settlement of children's disputes without the cost and destructive effects of trial. Importantly, the CDR judge will be the likely trial judge on children's matter and the hearing is not privileged.
Child abuse	Any act that endangers or impairs the physical, psychological, or emotional health or development of a child. See also Protecting Children from Maltreatment – Procedural Guide for Multi-disciplinary Co-operation (Revised 2020) . See also C v S [2021] HKCFI 278 at [61]-[66].
Child of the family	In divorce law, a child of the family includes the natural children of both parties to a marriage and any child who has been treated by the couple as a child of the family. Step children can be children of the family. See section 2(1) of Cap 192 .
Children's Appointment	An early directions hearing required in children's disputes pursuant to Practice Direction 15.13 .
Clean break	A financial order that achieves an end to the financial relationship between divorcing parties, normally by means of a lump sum order or transfer of property without any ongoing periodical payments. An

	order that includes nominal periodical payments is not a clean break order.
Cohabitation	Generally refers to the state of an unmarried couple living together.
Consent order / consent summons	Generally, where parties have reached an agreement they may apply to the court for an order by a 'consent summons'. If the said application is accepted by the court, it will be made into a binding order by a court (a consent order).
Contact	The arrangements for the absent parent to spend time with his / her child(ren). Also called 'Access'.
Contempt	Generally a failure to follow a court order that can be punished, e.g. by imprisonment under Order 52 of Cap 4A .
Counsel	Another word for barrister.
Crossley application	Where parties have entered into a (pre- or post-) nuptial agreement, the party seeking to enforce the terms of that agreement can apply to the court to exercise its case management powers, to direct that the usual requirements for Forms E and questionnaires be dispensed with and the other party be required to show cause as to why the nuptial agreement should not determine the outcome of the matter. This kind of hearing is a 'Crossley hearing' named after the case of Crossley v Crossley [2007] EWCA Civ 1491 (19 December 2007), [2008] 1 FLR 1467 .
Custody	The power to make the important decisions about a child's life. The decisions to be made by a custodial parent are those of real consequence in safeguarding and promoting the child's health, development and general welfare. They include decisions as to whether or not the child should undergo a medical operation, what religion the child should adhere to, what school the child should attend, what extracurricular activities the child should pursue, be it learning a musical instrument or being coached in a sport. A parent vested with custody has the responsibility of acting as the child's legal representative. Orders can be made for joint or sole custody. Joint custody recognises the responsibility inherent in being a parent and is the usual order. Occasionally sole custody is granted to one parent where the parties cannot communicate with each other to the detriment of the children. See PD v KWW (Joint Custody, Care and Control) [2010] 4 HKLRD 191 .
Declaration of parentage	A declaration made by a court that a specified person is the parent of a child. Applications may be made under section 6(1) of Cap 429 .
Decree Absolute	The final order of divorce, as distinguished from the Decree Nisi. An application may be made under Rule 65 and Rule 65A of Cap 179A.
Decree Nisi	A order for a divorce that will come into force at a future date unless ('nisi' in Latin) there is an application to rescind it under Rule 64 of Cap 179A . The order is not final until it is made absolute (Decree Absolute, see above).
Desertion	The intentional permanent forsaking and abandonment of one spouse by the other without that other's consent and without reasonable cause, that is, without the consent or fault of the person asking for relief. It is one of the five facts that, if proven, show grounds for divorce: see section 11A of Cap 179 .

Discovery	The processes for getting information and documents from another party. In ancillary relief proceedings parties have a duty to give full and frank disclosure. If a person is concerned that documents are missing, they can ask the court to order a questionnaire or apply for specific discovery. See also 'Form E'.
Divorce	The formal dissolution of a marriage, either by decree that the marriage was itself void or voidable, or by decree that the relationship has irretrievably broken down (see Parts 3 and 4 of Cap 179), the effect being that the marriage no longer has legal effect and is not legally binding on the parties.
Domestic violence	Violence that occurs within the private sphere, generally between individuals who are related through blood or intimacy. See also the Domestic & Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance (Cap 189) and Practice Direction SL10.1 .
Domicile	Generally understood as the jurisdiction that a person treats as their permanent home, or lives in and has a substantial connection with. A person's domicile is now governed and defined by the Domicile Ordinance (Cap 596) .
Ex Parte	An application made to a court where only one party is required to attend (called 'ex parte on notice' when another party is notified of the hearing).
Expert witness	A witness who has developed a skill or knowledge (through education or experience) that enables that person to give their opinion to assist the court under section 58 of the Evidence Ordinance (Cap 8) and under Order 38 or Order 40 of the Rules of the High Court (Cap 4A). Where appropriate, the court will consider appointing a single joint expert under Order 38, rule 4A. A useful discussion on the approach of the family courts to experts is set out in paragraphs 29 to 32 of the speech of Sir James Munby P in TG (A Child) [2013] EWCA Civ 5 (22 January 2013) .
Family Court	The specialist court within the District Court responsible for most matrimonial and family related disputes. See also Practice Direction 15.12 .
FDR or Financial Dispute Resolution Hearing	A hearing under Practice Direction 15.11 , mandatory in most financial matters before the Family Court. It is in effect a more formal form of court sponsored mediation. The objective is to allow parties a 'dry run' of their arguments before a judge, who may give an indication as to the likely approach of the court and outcomes. It serves to encourage settlement of disputes without the cost and destructive effects of trial. Importantly, the FDR judge will not be the trial judge and the hearing is privileged / without prejudice. Parties are free to explore a wider variety of possible settlements.
Filing	Giving documents to the court's clerk or at the court registries.
First Appointment	An early directions hearing required in financial dispute matters to establish and narrow the issues and ensure all information has been fully and frankly disclosed before the court at the FDR pursuant to Practice Direction 15.11 .
Form E	A sworn statement by a party to divorce proceedings of their financial means, liabilities etc. See Practice Direction 15.11 .

Form H	A written estimate of costs, with information as to the costs incurred and estimates of the costs to be incurred in the proceedings, to be signed by parties and their lawyers (see Practice Direction 15.9). There are 4 different Forms H: Form H1 (for defended matrimonial causes and interlocutory applications relating to the main suit), Form H2 (for children proceedings under Practice Direction 15.13) and, for ancillary relief proceedings under Practice Direction 15.11 , Form H3 (for costs up to the FDR) and Form H4 (for costs after the FDR up to and including trial).
Form J	A sworn statement by a party to children's proceedings of the current and proposed future arrangements for children. See Practice Direction 15.13 .
Freezing injunction	An order made pursuant to section 17(1) of Cap 192 to stop a party from disposing of money or assets pending a final decision being made by the court about distribution of that money or assets.
Gillick Competent	A term used to refer to a child being of sufficient age, understanding and maturity to give the court their own views, and to act independently of any adult.
Guardian	A person entitled to the same legal rights and duties as the parent of a child, whether permanently or for the time being. A guardian may be appointed by the court or by the parent(s) in writing (e.g. by deed or will or otherwise in accordance with section 6 of Cap 13) to act in their place. A person appointed to act as a guardian upon the death of the parent(s) is known as a 'testamentary guardian'.
Guardian Ad Litem	(distinct from a 'guardian') A person who defends a claim / intervenes and represent the rights and interests of a child in proceedings brought by a third party or the court. The obligations and functions of a guardian ad litem are set out in Practice Direction SL6 .
Hadkinson Order	A Court Order to refuse to hear submissions from a party in contempt of court until they have purged their contempt (e.g. where they have refused to provide access to another parent or failure to make maintenance payments), known from the case of Hadkinson v Hadkinson [1952] 2 All ER 567 ; see also CWG v MH & Ors [2014] HKCA 114 .
Hague Convention	May refer to the Convention on return of children abducted by a parent , or to the Convention on inter-country adoptions .
High Court	Consists of the Court of Appeal and the Court of First Instance. The Court of Appeal's jurisdiction includes appeals from the Family Court; and the jurisdiction of the Court of First Instance includes applications in wardship or family cases transferred from the Family Court.
Inherent jurisdiction	The reserve or fund of powers, a residual source of powers, which the court may draw upon as necessary whenever it is just or equitable to do so, including the theoretically (almost) limitless and discretionary power of the High Court to protect children (e.g. wardship powers).
Inter partes	An application made to a court where more than one party is required to attend.
Joint application	An application for divorce brought by both parties on the basis of one year's separation or one year's notice to the court under section 11B of Cap 179 .

Judicial separation	A decree formally recognising the legal separation of a married couple, despite remaining legally married. It is an alternative to a decree of divorce and, as with the divorce process, the parties may seek further court orders relating to children and financial support (maintenance).
Juvenile	A synonym for child or related to children, a person who has not achieved 18 years of age. The Juvenile Court handles child protection cases under the Protection of Children and Juveniles Ordinance (Cap 213) and criminal cases against children under the Juvenile Offenders Ordinance (Cap 226) .
Legal Aid	A type of funding for legal advice and representation to persons whose financial resources are below a certain threshold. See Legal Aid Financial Tables below.
Long marriage	There is no clear definition given by the courts or the statute. Decisions vary greatly, depending upon the circumstances. Generally, a marriage of 5 years or less without children will be considered a 'short marriage', a marriage of 5 to 10 years is usually classed as "not a short or long marriage", and marriages of longer periods are usually classed as "long marriages". The court may also take into account the period of premarital cohabitation, depending upon the circumstances: see <i>F v F</i> [2003] 1 HKLRD 836, [2003] HKCFI 111 at [114] to [118].
Lump Sum	An order for the payment of a single (often large) amount of money payable after the pronouncement of decree absolute. It is often made as a transfer of capital in lieu of a transfer of property or as capitalised maintenance to achieve a clean break. The court can only order one lump sum but it can also order that this one sum be paid in installments over time. It is different from a periodical payment (maintenance) which can be varied. Jurisdiction to make an order for a lump sum payment in divorce proceedings arises under section 4(1)(c) and section 5(2)(c) of Cap 192 and judicial separation proceedings under section 5 of Cap 16 . Generally, lump sum orders can be made against parents and guardians under Part 4 of Cap 13 if the child has an immediate and non-recurring and need.
Mareva injunction	A court order freezing a party's assets to preserve them for the trial.
Marital agreement	Sometimes called a 'nuptial agreement'. An agreement that addresses the rights and responsibilities of two parties in a marriage, in particular upon separation or divorce.
Master	A deputy registrar. See 'Registrar of Court' below.
Matrimonial assets, non-matrimonial assets, non-assets	In general there are three types of assets discussed in divorce proceedings, (1) "non-assets"; (2) "non-matrimonial assets"; and (3) "matrimonial assets". "Non-assets" refer to assets not belonging to the parties of the marriage (e.g. assets held by a husband or wife as a nominee or bare trustee for others). "Non-matrimonial assets" are assets owned by a husband or wife but, by virtue of their source, may be excluded from sharing though not excluded from being distributed under the principle of needs. "Matrimonial assets" are assets of a husband or wife may be distributed under the sharing principle. Generally, "non-assets" are not available for distribution between the

	divorced couple: see <i>TCWF v LKKS</i> [2014] 1 HKLRD 896, [2014] HKCA 414 at §§167-169.
Mediation	A form of ADR whereby an independent and neutral third party assists the parties to settle some or all of the issues between them. This may take place before, during or after litigation. It may relate to any issue (financial, children, relationships or otherwise). It may be conducted by a professional, trained mediator or by any lay person. It is a problem-solving process designed to encourage the parties to reach a mutually acceptable agreement. The process is confidential.
Mirror order	A mirror order is one that is issued by another court which contains substantially the same terms as those that are contained in the order that is being 'mirrored'. Inherent in the mirror order concept is the fact that the foreign court will enforce the terms contained in the order in that foreign jurisdiction. Such an order is normally achieved by consent of the parties to avoid repetitive proceedings in multiple jurisdictions: see discussion in LN v SCCM [2013] HKCA 272 .
MPS or Maintenance Pending Suit	An order from the court that a party to a divorce pay the other by periodical payments to cover the needs of the receiving party until the end of proceedings.
Next friend	A person who brings a claim and acts on behalf of a person subject to a disability (e.g. a child or a person suffering from a mental impairment).
'Non-mol' or 'Non-Molestation Order'	A court order that prevents an individual from harassing another person. It is not limited to physical violence, but includes verbal threats and other forms of abuse. See also 'Domestic Violence'.
Non-removal Order	A court order made under section 48D of Cap 179 prohibiting a child from being removed from Hong Kong.
Nullity	A decree that a marriage is legally void: see Part 4 of Cap 179 .
Nuptial agreement	See Marital agreement, Pre-nuptial agreement and Post-nuptial agreement.
Oath	To take the oath means to swear to the truth of what is written or said in evidence on either the Bible or other religious book of faith.
Official Solicitor	An independent officer of government (generally the Director of Legal Aid) appointed to represent the interests of the children in proceedings: see Cap 416 .
Originating Process	Any formal court document used to initiate a legal suit or action before the court (e.g. petition to begin divorce; originating summons to seek wardship or domestic violence injunction).
Parent	Father or mother (including by adoption) of another person.
Parental alienation	When a child's resistance or hostility towards one parent is not justified and is the result of psychological manipulation by the other parent. The manipulation of the child by the other parent need not be malicious or even deliberate: see Re S (Parental Alienation: Cult) [2020] EWCA Civ 568 at [8].
Periodical Payments	Repeated payments made over a period, at regular weekly, monthly or annual intervals: see XY v Director of Legal Aid [2017] HKCFI 2050; [2017] 5 HKLRD 787 at [35]. Jurisdiction to make an order for

	periodical payments in divorce proceedings arises under section 4(1) and section 5(2) of Cap 192 and in judicial separation proceedings under section 5 of Cap 16 . Generally, periodical payment orders can be made against parents and guardians under Part 4 of Cap 13 .
Petition	The formal document lodged with the Family Court seeking a divorce, decree of nullity, judicial separation or dissolution of marriage upon presumption of death.
Post-Nuptial Agreement	A contract entered into following marriage to regulate division of money and assets in the event of a later separation or divorce.
Practice direction	Standing directions to regulate practices and procedures issued by the court under its inherent jurisdiction. These directions are irregularly updated in relation to particular issues, applications or areas of law. They are available online .
Pre-Nuptial Agreement	A contract entered into in contemplation of marriage, usually to regulate division of money and assets in the event of later separation or divorce.
Property adjustment order	An order whereby one party is ordered to transfer to another his or her interest in property (whether land/real properties or otherwise, such as stocks or a car, etc.). This kind of order, once made, cannot be varied.
Relocation	An application to remove a child from the jurisdiction (to another country or city) permanently (ie for relocation). Such an application can be made pursuant to a range of powers including section 19 of Cap 192 , section 10 of Cap 13 or the inherent jurisdiction of the High Court.
Registrar of Court	The Registrar is a judicial officer responsible for the court registry and empowered by statute to make certain procedural decisions, though these may be appealed to a judge. The Registrar of the District Court may be assisted by deputy registrars (also known as ‘Masters’).
Separation	The breakdown of the marital relationship, where parties live apart. Separation may not occur if parties consider that their marital relationship continues though they live apart. ‘Living apart’ does not require that parties live in separate households (e.g. separate bedrooms). It is one of the five facts that, if proven, show grounds for divorce: see section 11A of Cap 179 .
Separation Agreement	A written agreement between parties upon separation. See also ‘Post-Nuptial Agreement’.
Serving/service	Giving documents to the other side.
Social Investigation Report (SIR) or Social Welfare Report (SWR)	A report prepared by a social worker (normally on behalf of the Director of Social Welfare / Social Welfare Department), acting as “the eyes and ears” of the court (see DCB v AB [2017] HKCFI 1015), normally reflecting the social circumstances of the child (or another party requiring the protection of the court), the views of the child, and the views of the Director of Social Welfare (pursuant to section 3 of Cap 13). Such reports are often prepared by foreign social workers in cases relating to relocation and abduction (International Social Welfare Reports, ISIR or ISWR).
Solicitor	A professional lawyer with direct access to the public. Solicitors are regulated by the Law Society of Hong Kong and are distinguished

	from barristers (the other branch of the legal profession, specialising in courtroom advocacy) although they can represent their clients in court in chambers (most family cases are heard ‘in chambers’). The solicitor is the first port of call for clients and solicitors instruct barristers to appear in court or give opinions as required. Solicitors undertake contentious and non-contentious work.
Specialised Co-parenting Support Centers (SCSC)	Government subsidised social welfare support centers that provide free of charge co-parenting support services across Hong Kong to separated, divorced and divorcing families, including: (i) co-parenting services (counselling, parental coordination), (ii) child contact/exchange (safe, neutral and supervised locations for handover and access), (iii) child-focused intervention (intensive counselling and other services for children), and (iv) public education on parental responsibility. Each center is staffed by trained social workers (though they are not accredited parenting coordinators).
Subpoena	A court order requiring an individual to give evidence in court (either orally or by providing documents).
Surrogacy	A method of assisted reproduction where a couple using scientific assistance bring about the creation of an embryo using either or both of their gametes (e.g. egg or sperm), and where a child is born from that embryo that has been carried by another person as the result of the placing in her of the embryo or gametes.
SWD	The Social Welfare Department , led by the Director of Social Welfare, a constituent department of the Labour and Welfare Bureau, responsible for family and child welfare services and other social welfare matters (e.g. elderly care and social security).
TL v ML application	A procedure in ancillary relief proceedings involving disputes between a spouse and a third party as to ownership of property, whereby the dispute is resolved as a preliminary issue by trial with the joinder of the third party (claiming ownership) as intervener. Under this application, there are directions for the filing of pleadings on the preliminary issue and for witness statements and discovery relevant to that issue. The application was developed following the decision in TL v ML [2005] EWHC 2860 (Fam) , and approved by the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal in Leung Wing Yi Asther v Kwok Yu Wah (2015) 18 HKCFAR 605 .
Trust	Where a person holds property on behalf of another.
Undertaking	A formal promise to a court (or other authority) to act in a particular manner or to refrain from acting. An undertaking has the same force as an injunction order given by the court, breach of which is actionable as contempt and may be enforced by committal. For the principles of release from undertakings in family proceedings see Birch v Birch [2017] UKSC 53 .
Unreasonable behaviour	The respondent has behaved in such a way that the petitioner cannot reasonably be expected to live with the respondent. It is one of the five facts that, if proven, shows grounds for divorce: see section 11A of Cap 179 .
Ward	A child under the protection of a guardian. A ward of court is a child under the protection of the court in wardship proceedings and no custodial decision may be taken without leave of the High Court judge

	responsible for the case. A ward of the Director of Social Welfare is under the guardianship of the Director (in adoption cases pursuant to section 5A of the Adoption Ordinance and in other cases, generally, pursuant to section 34 of the Protection of Children and Juveniles Ordinance).
Wardship	The ancient power of the High Court to take complete and absolute control over the welfare, care and upbringing of a child within its jurisdiction.
Welfare Checklist	An aide-mémoire to the court listing important factors to consider when determining the welfare/best interests of the child: see H v N [2012] 5 HKLRD 498; [2012] HKCFI 1533 .
Welfare Principle	a.k.a. “Best Interests” principle, the notion that the welfare / best interests of the child should be paramount consideration of the court.
Without prejudice	The rule that statements made in a genuine attempt to settle an existing dispute, whether made in writing or orally, are generally prevented from being put before the court as evidence of admissions against the interest of the party which made them.
Without prejudice save as to costs	The rule that negotiations cannot be shown to the court, except in the context of an argument in relation to legal costs. If the party had made an offer and the other side did not accept it, and eventually the receiving party does not 'beat' the offer, the costs may fall to be paid by the party who continued to litigate despite a reasonable offer having been made (also known as a 'Calderbank' offer).

FAMILY STATUTES & PRACTICE DIRECTIONS

The statutory law of Hong Kong is codified in the Laws of Hong Kong, which appears on the [e-Legislation database website](#) maintained by the Department of Justice (see also [Hong Kong Legal Information Institute](#)). Ordinances and subsidiary legislation (such as Rules and Regulations) are frequently referred to by their chapter number in the Laws of Hong Kong, i.e. their “Cap” number. Below are the main statutes for family law:

[Adoption Ordinance \(Cap 290\)](#) [**adoption**]

[Adoption Rules \(Cap 290A\)](#)

[Convention Adoption \(Exclusion\) Order \(Cap 290B\)](#)

[Intercountry Adoption \(Contracting States\) Order \(Cap 290C\)](#)

[Convention Adoption Rules \(Cap 290D\)](#)

[Child Abduction and Custody Ordinance \(Cap 512\)](#) [**international child abduction**]

[Child Abduction and Custody \(Parties to Convention\) Order \(Cap 512A\)](#)

[Domestic & Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance \(Cap 189\)](#) [**domestic violence**]

[Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Rules \(Cap 189A\)](#)

[Domicile Ordinance \(Cap 596\)](#) [**domicile**]

[Family Procedure Ordinance \(Cap 646\)](#) [**family procedure**] (gazetted on 30 June 2023, not fully in operation yet)

[Guardianship of Minors Ordinance \(Cap 13\)](#) [**guardianship of children**]

[Attachment of Income Order Rules \(Cap 13A\)](#)

[Inheritance \(Provision for Family and Dependants\) Ordinance \(Cap 481\)](#) [**inheritance**]

[Legal Aid Ordinance \(Cap 91\)](#) [**legal aid**]

[Legal Aid Regulations \(Cap 91A\)](#)

[Legal Aid \(Assessment of Resources and Contributors\) Regulations \(Cap 91B\)](#)

[Legitimacy Ordinance \(Cap 184\)](#) [**legitimacy of children**]

[Mainland Judgments in Matrimonial and Family Cases \(Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement\) Ordinance \(Cap 639\)](#) [**Mainland, recognition & enforcement**]

[Mainland Judgments in Matrimonial and Family Cases \(Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement\) Rules \(Cap 639A\)](#)

[Maintenance Orders \(Reciprocal Enforcement\) Ordinance \(Cap 188\)](#)

[Maintenance Orders \(Reciprocal Enforcement\) Rules \(Cap 188A\)](#)

[Maintenance Orders \(Reciprocal Enforcement\) \(Designation of Reciprocating Countries\) Order \(Cap 188B\)](#)

[Marriage Ordinance \(Cap 181\)](#) [**marriage**]

[Civil Celebrant of Marriages Appointment Appeal Board Regulation \(Cap 181A\)](#)

[Marriage Reform Ordinance \(Cap 178\)](#) [**customary marriages**]

[Marriage Reform Regulations \(Cap 178A\)](#)

[Marriage Reform \(Fees\) Regulations \(Cap 178B\)](#)

[Marriage Reform \(Forms\) Regulations \(Cap 178C\)](#)

[Designation of Public Officers Notice \(Cap 178D\)](#)

[Matrimonial Causes Ordinance \(Cap 179\)](#) [**divorce**]

[Matrimonial Causes Rules \(Cap 179A\)](#)

[Matrimonial Causes \(Fees\) Rules \(Cap 179B\)](#)

[Matrimonial Causes \(Decree Absolute\) General Order \(Cap 179C\)](#)

[Matrimonial Proceedings and Property Ordinance \(Cap 192\)](#) [ancillary relief, custody]

[Parent and Child Ordinance \(Cap 429\)](#) [parentage of children]

[Protection of Children and Juveniles Ordinance \(Cap 213\)](#) [child protection]

[Separation and Maintenance Orders Ordinance \(Cap 16\)](#) [judicial separation]

The practice directions applicable to the Family Courts (and to family proceedings before the High Court) are [published by the Judiciary](#). The main practice directions related to family practice are set out below:

[PD15.1 Divorce](#) [divorce]

[PD15.2 Petition - Personal Service](#) [divorce]

[PD15.3 Reconciliation](#) [divorce]

[PD15.4 Special Procedure](#) [divorce]

[PD15.6 Appointment of Medical Inspectors](#) [divorce]

[PD15.7 Decree Absolute](#) [divorce]

[PD15.8 Decrees and Orders: Agreed Terms](#) [divorce]

[PD15.9 Ancillary Relief in Matrimonial Causes - Estimate of Costs](#) [procedure in family courts] (recently updated)

[PD15.10 Family Mediation](#) [mediation]

[PD15.11 Financial Dispute Resolution Pilot Scheme](#) [ancillary relief] (recently updated)

[PD15.11A Application of Financial Dispute Resolution Pilot Scheme](#) [ancillary relief]

[PD15.12 * Matrimonial Proceedings and Family Proceedings](#) [procedure in family courts] (recently updated)

[PD15.13 Children's Dispute Resolution Pilot Scheme](#) [children] (recently updated)

[PD15.14 Transfer of Proceedings from the Family Court to the Court of First Instance](#) [procedure in family courts]

[PD15.15 Matrimonial and Family Proceedings – Miscellaneous](#) [procedure in family courts]

[PD23.1 Wards of Court](#) [children]

[PDSL5 Guidance on Meeting Children](#) [children]

[PDSL6 Guidance on Separate Representation for Children in Matrimonial and Family Proceedings](#) [children]

[PDSL7 Guidance on Direct Judicial Communications in International Family Disputes Affecting Children](#) [children]

[PDSL9 Pilot Scheme on Private Adjudication of Financial Disputes in Matrimonial and Family Proceedings](#) [ancillary relief]

[PDSL10.1 Guidance - Child Arrangements: Domestic Violence](#) [domestic violence, children]

[PDSL10.2 Guidance Note on Judgment Summons Procedure](#) [contempt]

[PDSL10.3 Guidance on Setting Aside a Consent Order on Ancillary Relief](#) [ancillary relief]

[PDSL10.4 Guidance Note on Case Management and Time Tabling in Children and Ancillary Relief Proceedings](#) [procedure in family court]

[PDSL10.5 Guidance Note on Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement of Mainland Judgments in Matrimonial and Family Cases](#) [Mainland, recognition & enforcement] (recently updated)

[EPD1 The Use of Electronic Technology in Civil Proceedings of the District Court](#) [technology] (recently updated)

For the use of video-conferencing facilities (VCF) and remote hearings please see the [Guidance Notes on Remote Hearings for Civil Business in Civil Court](#) and [How-to videos](#) published by the Judiciary [**technology**]

FAMILY CASELAW

* indicates leading authority (freely available reports [hyperlinked](#))

Hong Kong judgments are generally freely available directly through the [Judiciary's online database](#) or through the very useful [Hong Kong Legal Information Institute](#) (HKLII) (please note that the HKLII website was recently updated and all links provided here are to HKLII 'classic')

Caselaw Index

Abduction	38	Decree absolute application	51
Access/contact	40	Delay / extensions of time	51
Adjournment	41	Departure from equality	52
Alternative Dispute Resolution	41	Disclosure / discovery: ancillary relief	53
Adoption	41	Disclosure / discovery: children	53
Appeals	42	Divorce – grounds	53
Attachment of income	43	Divorce – procedure	54
Bankruptcy orders	43	Domestic violence	54
Best interests / welfare principle / checklist	44	Duxbury calculations	55
Calderbank offers	44	Equality and sharing	55
Case management	45	Evidence, experts and SIRs in children's matters	55
Charging orders	46	Financial dispute resolution	56
Child abuse	46	Foreign divorce, financial relief	57
Child maintenance	47	Forum (non) conveniens	57
'Child of the family'	47	Guardianship	57
Chinese customary adoptions	47	Hadkinson orders	57
Committal for contempt	48	Immigration / fundamental rights	58
Computation / non-marital assets	48	Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Ordinance	58
Costs in children's matters	49	Judgment summonses	59
Costs in matrimonial matters	49		
Custody, care and control	50		

Judicial communication	59	Parentage	66
Judicial interviews with children	59	Parental rights and authority	67
Jurisdiction	59	Party and party costs	67
Legal Aid	61	Periodical payments	67
Legal representation for children	61	Prohibition Orders	68
Length of marriage	61	Relocation / permanent removal	68
LGBT families	61	Section 18 declarations	69
Maintenance pending suit	62	Security for costs	69
Mareva Injunctions (in the matrimonial context)	63	Setting aside agreements	69
Marital agreements (nuptial agreements)	63	Setting aside decrees	69
Marriage	64	Setting aside transactions: s 17 MPPO	70
Marriages under Chinese Law and Custom	65	Shared residence	70
McKenzie friends	65	Soft loans	70
Needs	65	Surrogacy / human assisted reproduction	71
Next friends	65	Temporary removal from jurisdiction	71
Non-removal orders	65	Third parties and trusts	72
No order principle	66	Undertakings	72
Nullity	66	Variation	72
Official Solicitor	66	Wardship	73
		Wasted costs	74

Abduction

Re H (minors) (abduction: acquiescence) [1998] AC 72, [\[1997\] UKHL 12](#) (acquiescence depends on subjective intention of wronged parent; autonomous meaning of Convention)

N v O [1999] 1 HKLRD 68, [\[1998\] HKCFI 1022](#)

LM v HTS aka Re N (a child) [2001] 2 HKLRD 377, [\[2001\] HKCFI 1196](#)

AC v AS (Child Retention: Custody or Access Rights) [2002] 1 HKC 441, [\[2001\] HKCFI 871](#)

D v G [2002] 1 HKLRD 52, [\[2001\] HCKA 348](#) (allegations of sexual abuse)

LM v HTS (Child Abduction: Habitual Residence) [2001] 2 HKLRD 377, [\[2001\] HKCFI 1196](#)

Re L aka SC v LW [2004] 1 HKLRD 655, [\[2002\] HKCFI 1128](#) [61]-[63] (acquiescence; *Re H* [1997] UKHL 12 endorsed and applied)

Cannon v Cannon [\[2004\] EWCA Civ 1330](#) [2]-[5], [61] (not settled in requested state where parent had hidden identity), [38] (overriding objectives of Convention)

Re P (A Child) [2004] 2 FCR 698, [\[2004\] EWCA Civ 971](#) [60] (autonomous meaning of rights of custody under Convention)

Re J (A Child) (Custody Rights: Jurisdiction) [2006] 1 AC 80, [\[2005\] UKHL 40](#) (return to non-convention jurisdiction; welfare paramount and Convention policies not to be applied; welfare principle can give great weight to foreign culture of upbringing)

Hunter v Murrow (Abduction: Rights of Custody) [2005] 2 FLR 1119, [\[2005\] EWCA Civ 976](#) (effect of custody agreements in foreign jurisdiction, art 15 declaration in requesting state not binding)

BLW v BWL [2007] 2 HKLRD 195, [\[2007\] HKCA 72](#) (wrongful retention)

K v K (Application to Return Child to the Jurisdiction) [2007] HKFLR 67, [\[1996\] HKCFI 683](#) (limits of Hague Convention jurisdiction in China)

Re D (A Child) (Abduction: Rights of Custody) [2007] 1 AC 619, [\[2006\] UKHL 51](#)

Re M (Abduction: Zimbabwe) [2008] 1 AC 1288, [\[2007\] UKHL 55](#) [39]-[40], [43] (discretion to order that child stay when settled, discretion at large, no test of exceptionality) [41] (non-convention applications contrasted, where welfare principle governs)

OOD v IO [2011] 1 FCR 363, [\[2011\] EWCA Civ 128](#) [22]-[26] (discretion to order that child stay when settled; no hierarchy of factors; generalised approach to child's adaptability to new state inappropriate) [49] (effect of conduct on decision)

M v E (Hague Convention) [2015] HKFLR 337, [\[2015\] HKCFI 778](#) (return of child from Hong Kong to Brazil, rights of custody, acquiescence, grave risk, Child Abduction and Custody Ordinance Cap 512)

***JEK v LCYP (Children: Habitual Residence)** [2015] 4 HKLRD 798, [\[2015\] HKCA 408](#) (principles regarding habitual residence under Hague)

C v N (children: wardship) [2016] 2 HKLRD 765, [\[2016\] HKCFI 531](#)

L v L (Child removal – PRC) [2017] HKFLR 588, [\[2017\] HKCA 552](#) (Hong Kong and the PRC, whether judge right to refuse final custody order in favour of father, arrangement on reciprocal recognition and enforcement of civil judgements in matrimonial and family cases by the Courts of the Mainland and of the HKSAR)

In the matter of C (Children) [2018] 2 WLR 683, [\[2018\] UKSC 8](#) [34] (Convention cannot be invoked where child habitually resident in requested state before the wrongful act occurs) [46]-[51] (repudiatory retention possible, requires objectively identifiable act)

BRS v LYY [\[2018\] HKCFI 1524](#) (repudiatory retention)

C (Children) (Abduction: Article 13b) [\[2018\] EWCA 2834](#) [41]-[43] (alcohol abuse; efficacy of protective measures; broadly conceived)

LCH v JMC (Forum and Return) [2019] 4 HKLRD 242, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1894](#) [31]-[53] (surreptitious removal; insufficiently settled in Canada for habitual residence purposes)

Re NY (A Child) [\[2019\] UKSC 49](#) (inherent jurisdiction to order return of child)

BMC v BGC [2020] HKFLR 344, [\[2020\] HKCA 317](#) [72]-[77] (weight and importance given to parent's integration in social and family environment in requested state depends on particular circumstances) [79] (approach where irreconcilable facts are raised in affidavit evidence) [82]-[86] (challenges to three types of factual findings (1) of primary facts (2) based on evaluation (3) based on inferences)

MY v FT [\[2022\] HKCFI 1407](#), [2022] 4 HKLRD 12 (procedure for location orders)

YL (a Minor) [2022] 3 HKLRD 699, [\[2022\] HKCFI 2001](#) (jurisdiction for injunction orders against medical entities)

Re AAR (Wardship: Sequestration) [2022] 5 HKLRD 583, [\[2022\] HKCFI 2631](#) (sequestration of property to enforce order for return)

Re B (Children: Abduction: Consent: Oral Evidence: Article 13(b)) [\[2022\] EWCA Civ 1171](#), [2023] Fam 77 [2022] 3 WLR 1315, [2023] 1 FCR 851

Re K & S (Article 13(b)) [\[2023\] EWHC 1883 \(Fam\)](#) (review of principles re: grave risk, intolerable situation, protective measures)

Access/contact

Re R (an infant) (custody to non-parent) [1974] 1 All ER 1033 (father of illegitimate child)

Re B (Minors) (Access) [1992] 1 FLR 140 (CA) (eccentric and bizarre behaviour by parent)

Sanderson v McManus [\[1997\] UKHL 1](#); (also reported as *S v M (Access Order)*) [1997] 1 FLR 980 (hearsay evidence of assault)

**Re L, V, M, H* [2001] Fam 260, [\[2000\] EWCA Civ 194](#) (contact after domestic violence; child centred approach)

W v I [\[2000\] HKCA 374](#) [5] ('right' of access belongs to child, not non-custodial parent)

[11] (unusual case where access may prejudice mental health)

Re H (a child) [2006] Fam Law 439, [\[2005\] EWCA Civ 1404](#) (contact after domestic violence proven; delay and case management)

Re P (Children) [\[2008\] EWCA Civ 1431](#), [2009] 1 FLR 1056 (CA) (indirect access, domestic violence)

Re Z (Unsupervised Contact: Allegations of Domestic Violence) [\[2009\] EWCA Civ 430](#), [2009] 2 FLR 877

Warwickshire County Council v TE & Others [2010] 1 FLR 1785, [\[2010\] EWHC B19 \(Fam\)](#) (emotional distress and estrangement from parent caused to child by loss of access)

Westwater v Secretary of State for Justice [2011] 1 FLR 1989, [2010] EWHC 2403 (Admin) (access to parents serving prison sentence)

Re T [2012] 1 FLR 472, [\[2010\] EWHC B25 \(Fam\)](#) (one parent killed by other parent, guidance)

Re H (Contact with Biological Father) [\[2012\] EWCA Civ 281](#), [2012] 2 FLR 627 (CA) (extra-marital relationship)

Re F (Supervised Contact: Disputed Evidence) [2013] 1 FLR 665, [\[2012\] EWCA Civ 828](#) (violence to social workers during supervised contact)

BDL v CMS [2015] HKFLR 488, [\[2015\] HKCFI 122](#) (young child, parent coordinator, ordering gradual increase in access)

G, by his next friend Chan Lui Luna v BVR & Others [\[2018\] HKCFI 816](#) (supervised and unsupervised access; parenting skills)

NPYJ v SMRC [2018] 1 HKLRD 573, [\[2018\] HKCA 20](#) (interim interim access)

NPYJ v SMRC [\[2020\] HKCA 832](#) [26]-[82] (prudent and appropriate to await SIR before ruling on interim access application)

Adjournment

MT v MT (Financial Provision: Lump Sum) [1992] 1 FLR 362

Re G (financial claims: liberty to restore application for lump sum) [2004] 1 FLR 997

Quan v Bray & Ors [\[2018\] EWHC 3558 \(Fam\)](#) (application to adjourn capital claims)

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Re H (Conciliation: Welfare Reports) [1986] 1 FLR 476

Re D (Minors) (Conciliation: Privilege) [1993] 1 FLR 932 (CA) (when conciliation communications may be disclosed in children's matters)

Al-Khatib v Masry [2005] 1 FLR 381, [\[2004\] EWCA Civ 1353](#) (court appointment of mediator)

L v L [2007] 3 HKLRD 819, [\[2007\] HKCA 210](#) (Edgar agreements)

L v L [2008] 1 FLR 26, [\[2006\] EWHC 956 \(Fam\)](#) (challenging consent orders)

S v P (Settlement by Collaborative Law Process) [2008] 2 FLR 2040

S v T (Mediation: Privilege) (CA) [2011] 1 HKLRD 534, [\[2010\] HKCA 120](#)

S v S [2014] 1 WLR 2299, [\[2014\] EWHC 7 \(Fam\)](#) (approval of arbitral award)

Adoption

Re LYC (an infant) [1961] HKLR 491 (visitors for purpose of adoption not resident)

Re B (An Infant) [1971] 1 QB 437 (dispensing with consent in best interests)

Re W (an infant) [1971] AC 682 (objective test: unreasonably withholding consent)

Re D (Minors) [1996] AC 593, [\[1995\] UKHL 17](#) (sight of adoption papers, procedural fairness; non-disclosure the exception not the rule)

Re NTH [1996] 1 HKC 93 (meaning of residence in adoption proceedings)

Re G (a minor) (Adoption: Freeing Order) [1997] AC 613, [\[1997\] UKHL 16](#) (revocation of adoption order where re-assumption of parental rights inappropriate)

Re C (Adoption: Freeing Order) [1999] Fam 240

Director of Social Welfare v L [2006] 3 HKLRD 789, [\[2006\] HKCFI 1001](#) (adoption preferable to remaining in care)

Down and Lisburn Trust v H and R [\[2006\] UKHL 36](#) (open adoptions)

Re C (Adoption: Consent) [2012] 1 HKLRD 308, [\[2011\] HKCFI 1669](#) (abandonment and neglect, tracing of parent)

Director of Social Welfare v DTTH [2012] 5 HKLRD 203, [\[2012\] HKCFI 1423](#) (consent unreasonably withheld)

Director of Social Welfare v HSP [\[2013\] HKCFI 1537](#) (tracing biological mother's legal husband)

BT & GT (Children: twins – adoption) [\[2018\] EWFC 76](#) (intervention of older siblings, failure to conduct sibling assessment)

Re G (Wardship Proceedings: Adoption Application) [\[2020\] HKCFI 1886](#), [2020] 4 HKLRD 276 (private adoption, wardship)

Director of Social Welfare v YPC [\[2020\] HKCFI 2290](#), [2020] 5 HKLRD 233 (adoption checklist)

G v BVR & Ors [2020] 4 HKLRD 276, [2020] HKFLR 573, [\[2020\] HKCFI 1886](#) (foster parents' intervention in wardship proceedings to apply for adoption)

Mrs B & Anor v Official Solicitor & Ors [\[2021\] HKCFI 3534](#), [2022] 1 HKC 433,

[2022] 1 HKLRD 1 (procedure for leave to make arrangements for adoption, private & non-relative adoption)

Re K (Child: Adoption) [2022] 2 HKLRD 191, [\[2022\] HKCFI 556](#) (applications to free should be made with leave under s.23A)

Director of Social Welfare v LPK [\[2023\] HKCFI 802](#), [2023] 2 HKLRD 577 (definition of 'father' for unmarried parents; right of children to sibling unity)

Appeals

G v G (minors: custody appeal) [1985] 1 WLR 647, [\[1985\] UKHL 13](#) (threshold in discretionary context of care and contact)

Re G (a minor) (care: evidence) [1995] 2 FCR 120, [1994] 2 FLR 785 (CA) (fresh evidence on appeal)

Piglowska v Piglowski [1999] Fam Law 617, [\[1999\] UKHL 27](#) (court slow to accede to narrow textual analysis in discretion cases)

W Healthcare NHS Trust v KH and Others [\[2004\] EWCA Civ 1324](#) [28] (threshold where first instance court has taken best interests decision)

KNM v HTF [\[2011\] HKCA 541](#) [1], [23] (thresholds to appeal findings of fact)

TAC v VDC [\[2012\] HKCA 643](#) [7] (thresholds in discretionary contexts)

Re B [2013] 1 WLR 1911, [\[2013\] UKSC 33](#) [47], [91]-[92], [139] (threshold in fundamental rights contexts)

YN v NA (Leave to Appeal Out of Time) [2014] HKFLR 190, [\[2014\] HKCA 166](#) (whether to allow leave out of time, consideration of extension of time, whether a refusal to leave to appeal was capable of being appealed, whether the judge was right to allow the husband to cross appeal)

ZJ v XWN [2018] 3 HKLRD 644, [\[2018\] HKCA 436](#) [64] (leave applications a

filtering process, to be conducted summarily and proportionately)

JHK v YK [2018] HKFLR 552, [\[2018\] HKCA 542](#) [21] (Director of Legal Aid invited to streamline application process in light of *ZJ v XWN* judgment)

CCMJ v SSM [2019] HKFLR 51, [\[2019\] HKCA 267](#) (costs of leave to appeal in children's matter where application persisted despite refusal below)

LLC v LMWA, LELP [\[2019\] HKCA 319](#) [10] (findings of unreasonable litigation conduct for costs purposes is for trial judge, high bar, must show plainly wrong) [13] (being out of Hong Kong on holiday no good reason for delay in seeking leave to appeal)

LLC v LMWA & Anor [\[2019\] HKCA 347](#), [2019] 2 HKLRD 529, [2019] HKFLR 74, [7] (on costs appeal must show that court erred in principle of decision plainly wrong)

Z, SN v K, SF [2019] HKFLR 373, [\[2019\] HKCA 840](#) [9] (appellant's burden to show reasonable prospect of success under s 63A DCO)

WW v LLN [2019] HKFLR 539, [2019] 5 HKLRD 694, [\[2019\] HKCA 1278](#) [3] (possibility of rolled up leave and appeal hearings, given limited scope of issues and need for proportionality) [17] (no interference with weight given by judge to evidence save where plainly wrong) [27] (fresh evidence on appeal for CoA post-leave) [33] (responsibility of legal representatives in litigation funding appeals)

G (Children: Fair Hearing) [\[2019\] EWCA Civ 126](#) (judicial pressure to settle, hearing unfair, appeal allowed) *C v S* [\[2020\] HKCA 35](#) (costs of leave to appeal in wardship matter awarded, where no substance to contentions)

CSFK v HWH [2020] 2 HKLRD 586, [\[2020\] HKCA 207](#) [52] (CA will usually refuse to entertain application to set aside leave to

appeal granted below, particularly where granted *inter partes*)

M v L [2020] HKFLR 338, [\[2020\] HKCA 255](#) [12] (facts grounding divorce for trial judge; thresholds of appeal from such findings)

BMC v BGC [\[2020\] HKCA 317](#), [2020] HKFLR 344 [3]-[6] (duty to follow Section D of PD4.1 where expedited or urgent hearing of appeal is sought) [91]-[93] (appeals not for fresh fact finding nor re-weighing of facts)

NPYJ v SMRC [2020] HKFLR 689, [\[2020\] HKCA 832](#) [22] (appeals against interim orders generally discouraged)

EBS v NTCD [\[2021\] HKCA 1775](#) [14]-[15] (form of notice of appeal)

BT v CBY (2020) 23 HKCFAR 447, [\[2020\] HKCFA 35](#) (questions for appeal should not have been raised for first time in the CFA, should be of law not fact and must arise and be 'involved' in the appeal)

FNG v BCJ [\[2021\] HKCA 160](#) [73]-[74] (service of Notice of Appeal should technically be effected on the litigant in person, rather than their solicitors, who may not be acting) [78] (costs consequences of evading service of Notice of Appeal)

NPYJ v SMRC [\[2021\] HKCA 183](#) [23] (very high hurdles in case management appeals)

GKLJ v WE [\[2022\] HKCA 797](#) [18]-[20] (reasonably arguable grounds but appeal dismissed as access decision within ambit of discretion and not plainly wrong; variation applications below, if necessary, more appropriate)

Attachment of income

K v K [2005] 1 HKC 303, [\[2005\] HKCFI 104](#) (arrears, pension capable of attachment)

KGK v WHL [\[2006\] HKFC 5](#) [112] (single instance of non-payment, effect on work and school)

L v L [2007] 1 HKLRD 236, [\[2006\] HKCA 469](#) [4] (second maintenance order anticipated) [8]-[9] (attachment of government)

HWK v TCWP [\[2008\] HKFC 82](#) [25]-[27] (attachment to government salary)

SMC v JAC [\[2011\] HKFC 43](#) [74]-[75] (repeated unilateral deductions justifying attachment)

YY v CHOA [\[2012\] HKFC 36](#) [9]-[14] (shared responsibility for missed payments)

CYJW v LTYE [\[2020\] HKCA 913](#) [9.28] (payor's undertaking not to oppose income attachment order and materiality of costs which would be incurred by payee)

GM-SA v DDPJ [2022] 3 HKLRD 767, [\[2022\] HKCA 870](#) (setting aside consent order for misrepresentation / non-disclosure)

Bankruptcy orders

Curtis v Curtis [1969] 1 WLR 422

F v F [1994] 1 FLR 359 (annulment of bankruptcy order)

Re Mordant, Mordant v Halls [1997] 2 FCR 378

Re Lam Cham Ho [1999] 3 HKC 688, [\[1999\] HKCFI 1880](#) (who is a bankrupt's 'family')

Levy v Legal Services Commission [2001] 1 All ER 895, [\[2000\] EWCA Civ 285](#) [33] (whether costs order in family proceedings is provable as debt)

Re Li Kam Kwan, HTF v LKK [2006] HKCLRT 433, [\[2006\] HKCFI 1935](#) (application to set aside bankruptcy order)

Re Lam Yik Kai [\[2011\] HKCFI 375](#) [11] (standard of proof) [50] (petition a ploy to avoid financial obligations)

Re Lo Man Hong [2013] 4 HKLRD 126, [\[2013\] HKCFI 1367](#) (whether maintenance arrears are provable)

CH (A Minor) v WKYP [\[2020\] HKCA 415](#) [23] (omission to address minor details or obvious matters unlikely to form valid basis for appeal)

Best interests / welfare principle / checklist

J v C [1970] AC 668, [\[1969\] UKHL 4](#) (paramountcy of welfare)

Lee Cheuk Wah [\[1984\] HKCFI 166](#) (children's wishes liable to change)

C v C [2006] HKFLR 1, [\[1988\] HKCA 299](#) (wishes of a 15-year-old)

Re W (Minors) (Residence Order) [1992] 2 FLR 461 (wishes, sufficient understanding at 12 to 13 years)

Liu Lau Oi Yuk Sheldy v Liu Chian Hsiung [\[1997\] HKCA 494](#) (status quo, reduced importance where child familiar with parents' separate lives)

Y v L [\[1998\] HKFC 1](#) (wishes, whether child of 9 sufficiently mature, needs, Chinese culture)

Mabon v Mabon [2005] Fam 366, [\[2005\] EWCA Civ 634](#) (wishes, 13, 15 and 17, free expression aspect)

M v H [\[2006\] HKFC 8](#) (needs, hostility to parent, status quo, neutral environments)

W v W [2005] HKFLR 312 (FC) (sexual orientation of parents and best interests)

Re G (Children) (Residence: Same Sex Partner) [2006] 2 FLR 629, [\[2006\] UKHL 43](#) (difficult and finely balanced cases)

L v F [\[2006\] HKFC 24](#) [54]-[54] (checklist is useful in custody cases but not exhaustive)

YLS v TL [\[2008\] HKFC 29](#) [14] (custody, checklist referred to so far as relevant, domestic violence context)

Naziya Aslam v Rifaqat Ali [2009] HKFLR 294, [\[2004\] HKCA 91](#) [36] (change to status quo, adaptable children) [37] (role of mother caring for young children)

PCY v CYW [\[2009\] HKFC 19](#) [18] (custody and care and control, referred to so far as relevant)

**SMM v TWM* [2010] HKFLR 308, [\[2010\] HKCA 173](#) (best interests re relocation)

H v N [2012] 5 HKLRD 498, [\[2012\] HKCFI 1533](#) [28]-[32] (practice of using checklist approved, no duty to do so, laborious 'one by one' recital unnecessary, a mere aide-memoire)

**ZJ v XWN* [2018] 3 HKLRD 644, [\[2018\] HKCA 436](#) [25] (*H v N* and three caveats endorsed) [28] (not mandatory for judge to set out checklist item by item to show that it has been considered)

Comilang and Another v Director of Immigration [\[2019\] HKCFA 10](#) (best interests no application in immigration context concerning the entry, stay or departure of family members)

Calderbank offers

**Calderbank v Calderbank* [1975] 3 All ER 333 (CA)

Cutts v Hay [1984] 1 Ch 290, [1984] 1 All ER 597 (CA)

Gojkovic v Gojkovic (No 2) [1992] Fam 40 (degree to which offers have teeth, broad discretion)

A v A [1996] 1 FLR 14

F v F (Duxbury calculation) [1996] 1 FLR 833

Young v Young [1999] 3 FCR 36, [1998] 2 FLR 1131 (CA)

Butcher v Wolfe [1999] 2 FCR 165 (CA)

GW v RW [2003] Fam Law 386, [\[2003\] EWHC 611 \(Fam\)](#) [82]-[107] (Calderbank

offers and litigation conduct) [87]
(Calderbank offers in post-White era)

Norris v Norris, Haskins v Haskins [2003]
[EWCA Civ 1084](#)

C v C (Costs: Ancillary Relief) [2004] 1 FLR
291

W v K & Anor (Costs) [2008] HKFLR 378
[13] (Calderbank informative but not
determinative, litigation conduct and
neglect also relevant)

L v C [2008] [HKCA 92](#) [23] (pointers as to
how the discretion should be exercised)

KWC v LYY [2009] [HKFC 28](#) [3]-[7]
(general principles restated) [25]-[26] (no
teeth where disclosure incomplete)

T, L v S, N [2010] [HKCA 296](#) [113]-[126]
(Calderbank offers outside of big money
contexts)

EJC v CJB [2011] 5 HKLRD 508, [2011]
[HKCA 225](#) [127]-[139] (rejection of offer at
court door, trial time used on bad points
material)

KEWS v NCHC [2012] [HKCA 118](#)
(increasing offers failed to beat award; 85%
costs award) (appeal to CFA dismissed)

W v C [2014] [HKFC 102](#) (in MPS context)

KJ v KMLM [2014] [HKCFI 1043](#) [13]-[19]
(general principles) [21]-[24] (principles re
indemnity costs)

SANK v PGN [2011] [HKFC 30](#) [49] (no
order, both parties partly to blame)

MGB aka MAG v GCB [2018] [HKFC 8](#)
(offer not beaten, reasonable to insist on
nominal maintenance in the
circumstances)

Case management

Kelly (a minor) v BBC [2001] 1 All ER 323,
[2000] [EWHC Fam 2](#) (no 'secret
communications' with the court)

Wong Kar Gee Mimi v Severn Villa Ltd
[2012] 1 HKLRD 887, [2012] [HKCA 591](#)
(appeal of case management decisions)

Chan Cheung Ming Jacky and Siu Sin Man
[2014] 5 HKLRD 89, [2014] [HKCA 404](#)

Chai v Peng [2014] [EWHC 1519 \(Fam\)](#)
(application to withdraw and reissue
petition in big money case; criticism of
costs and use of court resources;
maintenance pending suit)

DJ v LRM [2015] [HKFC 81](#) (use of
documents in aid of criminal defence,
permitted)

CCMJ v SSM [2016] HKFLR 22, [2015]
[HKCA 765](#) (notices of appeal, bundles,
case management)

*AXA China Region Insurance Co Ltd v
Leong Fong Cheng* [2016] 6 HKC 220,
[2016] [HKCA 639](#) [40]-[55] (litigants in
person should not correspond with or
telephone court but use available
resources to make applications by
summons and affirmation)

TYT v TLH [2019] HKFLR 325, [2019]
[HKFC 186](#) (use of documents in PRC
proceedings, *DJ v LRM* distinguished)

CEPK v LKKH [2019] 1 HKLRD 681, [2018]
[HKFC 232](#) [63]-[64] (no place for running
bundles in modern family litigation)

*SSLT v SMFC (AR; Non-Matrimonial
Assets)* [2019] HKFLR 458, [2019] [HKFC
250](#) [20]-[25] (rule in *Browne v Dunn*
inapplicable in quasi-inquisitorial family
proceedings)

W (A Child) [2019] [EWCA Civ 1966](#) [21]-
[22] (generally unhelpful to include
comments *re* merits in recitals of orders)

WW v LLN (fka LSM) [2020] [HKCA 178](#)
[35]-[41] (practitioners' duties to complete
Forms E accurately)

**CSFK v HWH* [2020] HKFLR 318, [2020]
[HKCA 207](#) (key authority on remote
hearings by video conference)

GM-SA v DDPJ [2020] HKFLR 418, [\[2020\] HKCA 488](#) [64] (Family Court has power to stay proceedings of own motion or on application, under DCO s.48(5) including on terms and conditions under s.48(1)(a))

NPYJ v SMRC [\[2020\] HKCA 832](#) [23] (exceptional circumstances required to appeal case-management decision)

C v D [2020] HKFLR 457, [\[2020\] HKFC 145](#) (jurisdiction to order that cohabiting party confirm in writing whether trust will be challenged)

Change of names

Dawson v Wearmouth [\[1999\] UHKL 18](#), [1999] 2 AC 308, [1999] 2 WLR 960, [1999] 2 All ER 353, [1999] 1 FLR 1167, [1999] 1 FCR 625, [1999] Fam Law 378, (1999) 96(17) LSG 24, (1999) 143 SJLB 114

Re W, Re A, Re B (Change of Name) [2001] Fam 1, [2000] 2 WLR 258, [1999] 2 FLR 930, [1999] 3 FCR 337, [1999] Fam Law 688, (1999) 96(33) LSG 29

XS v LB [\[2018\] HKFC 68](#) (change of name)

LKW v THY (Child: Change of Name) [\[2023\] HKFC 10](#), [2023] 2 HKLRD 517, [2023] 2 HKC 192

Charging orders

Roberts Petroleum Ltd v Bernard Kenny Ltd [1982] 1 All ER 685 (CA)

Harman v Glencross [1986] 1 All ER 545 (CA)

Malahon Credit Co Ltd v Siu Chun Wah Alice [1987] 2 HKC 79, [\[1987\] HKCA 341](#)

SJ v Chau Mei Ha (t/a Ramco International Co) [\[1999\] HKCFI 11](#)

Bank of China (Hong Kong) Ltd v Kanishi (Far East) Ltd [2002] 2 HKLRD 52, [\[2001\] HKCFI 1285](#)

Field v Field [2003] 1 FLR 376

Y v A [\[2005\] HKFC 9](#) (whether transfer should be subject to charging order)

Ng Yat Chi & Anor v China Resources (Holdings) Co Ltd [\[2006\] HKCFI 1081](#)

Wan v Lai [\[2007\] HKFC 44](#) (set aside for irregularity)

Child abuse

Re M (A Minor) (Child Abuse: Evidence) [1987] 1 FLR 293

Re W (A Minor) (Child Abuse: Evidence) [1987] 1 FLR 297

Re H (A Minor) (Child Abuse: Evidence) [1987] 1 FLR 332

Re G (A Minor) (Child Abuse: Standard of Proof) [1987] 1 WLR 1461

Re H (A Minor) [1989] 3 WLR 933 (CA)

Re Z (Minors) (Child Abuse: Evidence) [1989] 2 FLR 3, [1989] FCR 440

Re AM (Minors) (Wardship: Child Abuse: Guidelines to Social Workers) [1991] 1 WLR 1026,

Re W (Minors) (Sexual Abuse: Standard of Proof) [1994] 1 FLR 419

Re M (A Minor) (Care Proceedings: Appeal) [1994] 1 FLR 59 (CA)

Re H and R (Child Sexual Abuse: Standard of Proof) [1996] AC 563, [\[1995\] UKHL 16](#)

Re D (A Child) (Wardship: Evidence of Abuse) [2001] 1 FLR 148 (facilitated communication methods viewed with caution)

CLL v SW [\[2012\] HKFC 57](#) [24]-[49] (principles where sexual abuse alleged)

B (Children) [\[2019\] EWCA Civ 575](#) [49] (staged approach where identity of perpetrator uncertain)

Re S (A Child: Adequacy of Reasoning) [\[2019\] EWCA Civ 1845](#) [31]-[34] (fact

finding decision set aside for insufficient reasoning)

A (No 2) (Children: Findings of Fact) [2019] EWCA Civ 1947 (second retrial ordered after court went ‘off piste’ in fact finding hearing)

C v S [2021] HKCFI 278 [61]-[66] (definition of alienation, types of child abuse, civil standard of proof)

Child maintenance

Re P (Child: Financial Provision) [2003] 2 FLR 865

Morgan v Hill [2006] EWCA Civ 1602 (unmarried couple, effect of an agreement)

H v S [2012] HKFLR 236, [2009] HKFC 14 (history of legislation in England and Hong Kong) [47] (test is reasonableness against respondent’s means)

WGL v ASB [2013] HKFLR 391, [2013] HKCFI 1196

IDC v SSA [2014] 4 HKLRD 220, [2014] HKCA 277 [21]-[36] (jurisdiction to order settlement of sum on trust for purchase of property to meet accommodation need of a child, with a reversion to the paying parent)

LTM v RJT [2019] HKFLR 449, [2019] HKCA 1004 (carer’s allowance for unmarried former partner, upheld)

QMY v GSS [2020] HKFLR 474, [2020] HKFC 161 [59] (doctrine of estoppel not strictly applicable given inquisitorial duty into best interests)

‘Child of the family’

A v A [1974] Fam 6 (unborn child)

M v M (child of the family) [1980] 2 FLR 39 (behaviour after separation)

W v W (Child of the Family) [1984] FLR 796 (contributions to pram cost, and birthday gifts of clothes)

Re A (Child of the Family) [1998] 1 FLR 347 (grandchild ‘treated’ for purpose of 1975 Act)

LNL v HPYA [2016] 3 HKLRD 261, [2016] HKFC 51 [11]-[14] (when treated as a child of the family; broad question of objective fact, including where the child lives, who pays for the child, who exercises discipline and whether responsibilities are claimed)

Chinese customary adoptions

Re Chan Tse Shi (1954) 38 HKLR 9 (example of variation of customs)

Tai Lee Construction Co v Tsang Ching Hing [1966] HKLR 868 (expert evidence not always essential)

Wong Kam Ying v Man Chi Tai [1967] HKLR 201 (intention to adopt necessary)

Yau Ting Sung v Yau Wan Loi [1984] HKLR 1, [1983] HKCFI 171 (documentary evidence not necessary)

Yeung Chi Ding v Yeung Tse Chun [1986] HKLR 131, [1985] HKCFI 276

Ng Chi-fong v Hui Ho Pui-fun [1987] HKLR 462, [1987] HKCFI 42

Re Estate of Lau Wai Chau [1998] 1 HKLRD 579, [1998] HKCFI 1006

Liu Ying Lan v Liu Tung Yiu [2003] 3 HKLRD 249, [2003] HKCA 310 (rights of adoptive child)

Re Estate of Lucien Wong aka De Wong Au Edith v Kho Sin Tek Henry [2004] HKCFI 83 (background of the family and expert reports)

Chow Shun Yung v Ethel Lew [2006] HKCLRT 389 (English), [2006] HKCLRT 372 (Chinese), [2006] HKCFI 1927 (no expert evidence that man could adopt his own illegitimate child under customary law)

Committal for contempt

Ansah v Ansah [1977] Fam 138 (last resort)

Fabrique Ebel SA v MBO Far East [1985] [HKCFI 393](#) (procedure)

Malcolm Ernest Gray v Diane Cary Barber Servino (2001) 4 HKCFAR 419, [2001] [HKCFA 15](#) (warrant for committal should not automatically issue on affidavit of default)

Olk v Olk [2001] [EWCA Civ 1075](#) (manipulation to thwart care arrangements order)

V (Children) [2008] [EWCA Civ 635](#) (committal order excessive given welfare of children)

Slade v Slade [2009] [EWCA Civ 748](#) (grave contempt, using son to interfere with counterparty's property)

JRB v KLWW [2011] [HKCA 139](#), [31] (principles of contempt jurisdiction)

Zuk v Zuk [2012] [EWCA Civ 1871](#) (imprisonment for non-payment of lump sum, unjust)

CKF v LHL [2016] HKFLR 492, [2016] [HKFC 128](#) (restoration of injunction summons, committal proceedings)

**BT v YHK* [2020] 3 HKLRD 287, [2020] HKFLR 399, [2020] [HKCA 426](#) [3] (elements to establish contempt) [5.1]-[5.15] (principle prohibiting double-jeopardy where order breached already envisages penalty) [7.1], [7.6] (use of respondent's affidavit in committal proceedings) [12] (sentencing principles) [note: application for leave to appeal to the CFA dismissed by the appeal committee: (2020) 23 HKCFAR 447]

Computation / non-marital assets

Watchel v Watchel [1973] Fam 72, [1973] [EWCA Civ 10](#) (definition of family assets)

**Charman v Charman* [2007] 1 FLR 1246, [2007] [EWCA Civ 503](#) [66] (sharing applies to all property, but better reason to depart from equality re non-matrimonial property) [67] (computation precedes distribution)

**Miller, McFarlane* [2006] 2 AC 618, [2006] [UKHL 24](#) [21]-[25] (matrimonial and non-matrimonial property), [147]-[153] (source of asset and length of marriage)

FS v JS [2007] 1 FLR 1496, [2006] [EWHC 2793 \(Fam\)](#) [30]-[32] (pre and post marital assets post Miller)

Rossi v Rossi [2007] 1 FLR 790, [2006] [EWHC 1482 \(Fam\)](#) [8]-[24] (post separation accrual)

**LKW v DD* (2010) 13 HKCFAR 537, [2010] [HKCFA 70](#) [71]-[73] (first step, identification of the assets)

MKGWH v RKSH [2011] HKFLR 220, [2011] [HKCA 5](#) (family shares in a public company)

Kerman v Akhmedova [2018] 2 FLR 354, [2018] [EWCA Civ 307](#) (examination of party's solicitor in enormous wealth case where financial conduct obfuscatory) [22] (principles of common law and equity apply equally in family law)

Versteegh v Versteegh [2018] [EWCA Civ 1050](#) (impressionistic and probably valuation in case of enormous wealth and complex business structure)

CSY v CPK [2019] HKFLR 172, [2019] [HKFC 129](#) [42]-[48] (small business relevant to earnings not computation) [42]-[59] (clawback of unexplained payment) [68]-[83] (adverse inferences, lifestyle exceeding disclosed means)

SSLT v SMFC (AR; Non-Matrimonial Assets) [2019] HKFLR 458, [2019] [HKFC 250](#) [28]-[36] (nine months insufficient to exclude post-separation bonus payment) [41]-[48] (pensions, relevant whether 48 realizable) [96]-[110] (intermingling of pre-marital assets)

LCYP v JEK & Anor [2019] HKFLR 238, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1588](#) [107]-[115] (add back of \$22M for disproportionate legal costs)

ZQA & ors v SCC & Anor [2021] 3 HKC 458, [\[2021\] HKCA 194](#) [5.1]-[5.12] (leave to appeal unnecessary and bar to adduce new evidence lower)

Costs in children's matters

Re G (Minors) (Wardship: Costs) [1982] 1 WLR 438

London Borough of Sutton v Davis (Costs) (No 2) [1994] 2 FLR 569

Re M (Local Authority's Costs) [1995] 1 FLR 533 (unusual where conduct not reprehensible nor stance beyond band of what is reasonable)

N v O [\[1998\] HKCFI 1022](#) (Hague cases)

R v R (Costs: Child Case) [1997] 2 FLR 95 (CA) (litigation conduct relevant)

AC v AS [\[2005\] HKCFI 1059](#)

N v I [2006] HKFLR 115, [\[2006\] HKFC 2](#) (interlocutories)

FHY v S (Costs: Children's Case) [2006] HKFLR 453

M v M (Removal) [2008] HKFLR 100, [\[2006\] HKFC 2](#) (unsuccessful Hague appeal)

EM v SW [\[2009\] EWCA Civ 311](#) (discretion on appeal)

Re S (Leave To Remove: Costs) [2010] 1 FLR 834 (discretion on appeal)

R and R v A [2011] 2 FLR 672 (highly unpleasant and irrelevant accusations against father)

***TC fka TSWC v KCTC aka Re LB** [2012] 1 HKLRD 266, [\[2011\] HKCFI 1603](#) (wardship costs)

Re T [2012] 1 WLR 2281, [\[2012\] UKSC 36](#) (costs of unproven harm allegations)

***TPL v WYY** (*Cost: children*) [2015] HKFLR 75, [\[2014\] HKCA 625](#) (failure to disclose new partner)

***QMY v GSS (No 2)** [2016] 1 HKLRD 433, [\[2015\] HKCA 555](#) (costs on appeal, point of law)

RM v SRM (Security for Costs: Child Relocation) [2019] 2 HKLRD 1094, [\[2019\] HKFC 93](#)

LACHY v YC [\[2019\] HKCA 319](#) [10] (threshold to set aside finding *re* litigation conduct that grounded costs award 'very high')

LLC v LMWA & Anor [\[2019\] HKCA 347](#), [2019] 2 HKLRD 529, [2019] HKFLR 74, [7] (on costs appeal must show that court erred in principle of decision plainly wrong)

Costs in matrimonial matters

Livesey (formerly Jenkins) v Jenkins [1985] AC 424, [\[1984\] UKHL 3](#)

Gojkovic v Gojkovic (No 2) [1992] Fam 40 (general principles)

Re Elgindata Ltd. (No.2) [1992] 1 WLR 1207 (frequently cited starting point)

P v P (Financial Relief Non-Disclosure) [1994] 2 FLR 381

F v F [1994] 1 FLR 359

Baker v Baker [1995] 2 FLR 829

M v M (Financial Provision: Party Incurring Excessive Costs) [1995] 3 FCR 321

Tavoulaareas v Tavoulaareas [1998] 2 FLR 418 (CA)

Young v Young [1998] 2 FLR 1131 (CA)

Al-Khatib v Masry [2002] 1 FLR 1053

KGL v CKY [2005] 1 HKFLR 215, [\[2003\] HKCA 371](#) (costs within MPS)

L v C [\[2008\] HKCA 92](#) [23] (principles)

NG v SG [\[2011\] EWHC 3270 \(Fam\)](#) (non-disclosure)

EJC v CJB [2011] 5 HKLRD 508, [\[2011\] HKCA 225](#) [130] (obligation to explore settlement constructively) [133] (broad discretion) [135] (late and low offer)

HJFG v KCY [2012] 1 HKLRD 95, [\[2011\] HKCA 402](#) [79]-[85] (contribution to ongoing legal costs; principles)

LSY v HTF [2013] 2 HKLRD 1223, [\[2012\] HKCA 536](#) [17]-[21] (marital and litigation misconduct distinction)

Z v X & C [\[2013\] HKCA 123](#) (various costs appeals)

LGA nee P v LKKD [\[2013\] HKFC 43](#) (short marriage, costs exceeded lump sum awarded)

JJBGMK v JPLY [\[2014\] HKFC 45](#) (offers and exaggerated needs claims)

D v L [\[2014\] HKFC 57](#) (legal costs contribution)

AVT v VNT [2015] HKFLR 553, [\[2015\] HKCA 611](#) (sanctioned costs)

AB aka ABW v MAW [2016] HKFLR 525, [\[2016\] HKCA 580](#) (costs following FDR)

CEPK v LKKH [2019] 1 HKLRD 681, [\[2018\] HKFC 232](#) [48]-[52] (costs following in-trial settlement; payment method different to open offer) [67] (costs of running bundles disallowed)

Leung For Wing v Liu Shaouan [2018] 4 HKLRD 352, [\[2018\] HKCFI 1941](#) (whether third party joined in s.17 application could recover costs from Director of Legal Aid)

**LLC v LMWA & Anor* [2019] 2 HKLRD 529, [2019] HKFLR 74, [\[2019\] HKCA 347](#) [7] (on costs appeal must show that court erred in principle of decision plainly wrong) [30]-[37] (proportionate approach to costs in family litigation)

CWHW v KSHD & Anor [2019] HKFLR 62, [\[2019\] HKFC 70](#) (indemnity costs of

application to set aside, where delay, failure to give evidence and unscrupulous motive)

LCC v LTLA [\[2019\] HKCA 762](#) [2]-[5] (costs of FDR appropriate where party reneged on property valuation agreed days earlier) [10] (costs of FDR 'forthwith' permissible in principle)

WW v LLN [2019] HKFLR 539, [\[2019\] HKCA 1278](#) [32]-[33] (further reminder to practitioners to resolve dispute (*re* litigation funding) by negotiation rather than application/appeal)

NLT v LYKJ [\[2020\] HKCA 77](#) (plainly wrong for related matrimonial matters to be litigated in both the High Court and Family Court)

SSLT v SMFC (Variation of Costs Order Nisi) [2020] HKFLR 1, [\[2020\] HKFC 42](#) [18]-[24] (summary of costs principles) [31]-[35] (money to subject and time to subject analysis of costs inappropriate)

**Re A (Third party funding)* [2020] HKFLR 41, [\[2020\] HKCFI 493](#) (now leading local authority on third party funding)

AK v MYNT & Anor [\[2021\] HKCA 468](#) [5] (costs of interlocutories usually forthwith)

Custody, care and control

J v C [1970] AC 668 (custody to foster parents)

**Dipper v Dipper* [1980] 3 WLR 626 (sole custody not absolute)

W v W [1981] HKC 466 (split custody inherently undesirable, but possible)

H v H [\[2002\] HKCA 419](#) (upholding 'shared care' order)

G (Children) (Residence: Same Sex Partner) [2006] 1 WLR 2305, [\[2006\] UKHL 43](#)

***S v Z, reported as SEB v ZX (Custody)** [2007] HKFLR 165, [\[2007\] HKFC 34](#) (split order)

ML v YJ [2008] HKFLR 88 (whether joint custody workable, or aspirational)

BWBP v T-KP nee DP [\[2012\] HKFC 5](#) (discussion of 'primary carer')

Y v P [2009] HKFLR 308 (compelling co-operation by joint custody order undesirable)

Naziya Aslam v Rifaqat Ali (Custody and Removal) [2009] HKFLR 294, [\[2004\] HKCA 91](#) (custody on permanent relocation)

***PD v KWW (Joint Custody, Care and Control)** [2010] 4 HKLRD 191, [2010] HKFLR 184, [\[2010\] HKCA 172](#) (definitions of custody and care and control)

SKP v YITT [\[2012\] HKFC 62](#) [19] (helpful collection of various orders available), [21] (joint care and control usually though not necessarily, by consent), [22] (discussion of shared care)

RWS v KCC [\[2012\] HKFAMC 1](#) (medical issues requiring single ultimate decision maker)

CCMJ v SSM [2013] 3 HKLRD 497, [\[2013\] HKCA 721](#) (joint custody unworkable, overbearing attitude made cooperation wishful thinking)

ULS v ERJ [\[2013\] HKFC 64](#) (small child, serious allegations against father)

LMM v LKKV (custody, care and control and shared care) [2013] HKFLR 580, [\[2013\] HKFC 95](#)

黎 v 凌 [2017] 5 HKLRD 629, [\[2017\] HKCA 552](#) (custody where child taken to the Mainland)

JHK v YK [2018] HKFLR 552, [\[2018\] HKCA 542](#) [24] (neither instructions, strategic nor forensic considerations should cloud practitioners' judgment *re* best interests)

AA v BB [\[2021\] HKCFI 1401](#), [27]-[28] (joint custody, care and control in case of non-biological parent in same-sex relationship)

Decree absolute application

Lau Chu alias Lau Kwok Chu v Lau Tang Su Ping [1989] 2 HKLR 470, [\[1989\] HKCA 294](#)

Wickler v Wickler [1998] 2 FLR 326

Re G (Decree Absolute: Prejudice) [2003] 1 FLR 870

J v V [2013] 1 HKLRD 203, [\[2012\] HKCFI 1877](#) [29] (guiding principle is whether just and convenient, exceptional circumstances required to oppose, financial prejudice must be real, court may balance prejudice to each party)

TLS nee J v RCS [\[2013\] HKFC 74](#) [29] (principles re grant of decree absolute)

JAH v VH (Decree Absolute) [2013] HKFLR 66, [\[2013\] HKCA 640](#) [7.2]-[7.6] (approach where financial prejudice claimed under section 17A)

Delay / extensions of time

YSP v HFF [\[2003\] HKCA 295](#) [13] (principles; extension to file an answer to a petition)

KNM v HTF [\[2011\] HKCA 541](#) [15]-[19] (practice and procedure; principles; extension to apply for leave to appeal)

YN also known as YN (A) v NA [\[2014\] HKCA 166](#) (whether jurisdictional bar to appeal against grant of leave out of time)

TPL v WYY formerly known as WYY [\[2014\] HKCA 677](#) (extension to appeal against costs order)

Wyatt v Vince [2015] 2 All ER 755, [\[2015\] UKSC 14](#) [32] (no time limit)

Departure from equality

GW v RW [2003] EWHC 611 (Fam)

Forster v Forster [2003] 2 FLR 299, [\[2003\] EWCA Civ 565](#) (short childless marriage; both parties working)

Lambert v Lambert [2003] 1 FLR 139, [\[2002\] EWCA Civ 1685](#) (big money; all generated in marriage; special contribution argument discriminatory; arguments about contributions often futile)

Parra v Parra [2003] 1 FLR 942, [\[2002\] EWCA Civ 1886](#) (weight given to equality community of property regime arranged by parties during marriage through family company)

**Miller, McFarlane* [2006] 2 AC 618, [\[2006\] UKHL 24](#) [65], [67], [145] (neither conduct nor special contributions informative of fair distribution, unless inequitable)

Rossi v Rossi [2007] 1 FLR 790, [\[2006\] EWHC 1482 \(Fam\)](#) [25]-[32] (effect of delay)

FS v JS [2007] 1 FLR 1496, [\[2006\] EWHC 2793 \(Fam\)](#) [38]-[42] (summary of conduct cases [38]-[42])

**Charman v Charman (No 4)* [2007] Fam Law 682, [\[2007\] EWCA Civ 503](#) [66] (sharing applies to all property, but better reason to depart from equality re non-matrimonial property)

North v North [2009] 1 FLR 158, [\[2007\] EWCA Civ 760](#) [69] (re-housing, fairness to both parties)

**LKW v DD* (2010) 13 HKCFAR 537, [\[2010\] HKCFA 70](#) [83]-[130] (factors material to departure: assets independently acquired, unilateral assets, conduct, financial needs, duration of marriage, contributions to family welfare, compensation)

Jones v Jones [2011] 3 WLR 582, [\[2011\] EWCA Civ 41](#) [69] (sharing and needs may

be different in medium asset / non-big money cases)

**ARAV v VP, LJ* [2011] 3 HKLRD 759, [\[2011\] HKCA 131](#) (departure for financial misconduct)

Lawrence v Gallagher [2012] 2 FLR 643, [\[2012\] EWCA Civ 394](#)

TCWF v LKKS [2014] 1 HKLRD 896, [\[2014\] HKCA 414](#) (conduct during marriage and sharing)

TCWF v LKKS & Ors [2014] HKFLR 1, [\[2014\] HKCA 419](#) (effect of a framework agreement)

Mimi Kar Kee Wong Hung v Raymond Kin Sang Hung (2015) 18 HKCFAR 21, [\[2015\] HKCFA 38](#) (add-backs, clawbacks)

PW v PPTW [\[2015\] HKCA 176](#) [46]-[58] (guidance re sources of assets) [59]-[70] (two methods of departure)

MAP v MFP [2015] Fam Law 522, [\[2015\] EWHC 627 \(Fam\)](#) (successful family business, no add-back)

A v B [2016] HKFLR 332, [\[2016\] HKFC 127](#) (sharing of income)

Versteegh v Versteegh [\[2018\] EWCA Civ 1050](#) (effect of agreement on sharing)

CSY v CPK [2019] HKFLR 172, [\[2019\] HKFC 129](#) [117] (child care did not justify departure from equality)

SSLT v SMFC (AR; Non-Matrimonial Assets) [2019] HKFLR 458, [\[2019\] HKFC 250](#) [111]-[130] (distillation of compensation principles) [147]-[149] (abandoned career genuine disadvantage, 5% departure)

ALDL v FTFC & Anor [2020] HKFLR 737, [\[2020\] HKFC 192](#) [52] (principles governing O.24 r.7 specific discovery applications for banking records)

JTMW v NAV (Ancillary Relief) [2022] 2 HKLRD 490, [\[2022\] HKFC 46](#) (litigation misconduct as reason to depart)

Disclosure / discovery: ancillary relief

Wiseman v Wiseman [1953] (failure to make full disclosure in a divorce petition does not render it void, merely voidable and liable to be set aside)

B v B (Matrimonial Proceedings: Discovery) [1978] Fam 181

Hotung v Hotung [1980] HKC 327

Thyssen-Bornemisza v Thyssen-Bornemisza (No 2) [1985] FLR 1069

B v B (Discovery: Financial Provision) [1990] 2 FLR 180

Tao Chen Pi O v Tai Hsiuo Ming [1994] 1 HKLR 144, [1993] 1 HKC 279 (CA)

Lo Shiu Chun v Law Ying Chee Fogg [1994] 1 HKC 227 (CA)

Van G v Van G (financial provision: millionaire's defence) [1995] 1 FLR 328

Charman v Charman [2006] 1 WLR 1053, [2005] EWCA Civ 1606

IDC v SSA [2013] 5 HKC 482, [2013] HKFC 4 (on appeal as [2014] 4 HKLRD 220, [2014] HKCA 277)

CWG v MH [2016] HKCA 276 (inferences re offshore assets)

YBL v LWC [2017] 1 HKLRD 823, [2016] HKCA 629 [94] (difference between disclosure in ancillary relief and post-judgment examination)

A v B (Discovery) [2017] HKFLR 66, [2017] HKFC 15 [11]-[13] (principles)

CLS v LPKP [2018] 1 HKLRD 786; [2018] HKFC 6 (non-party discovery against bank)

LCYP v JEK & Anor [2019] HKFLR 238, [2019] HKCFI 1588 [32]-[74] (adverse inferences drawn due to non-disclosure of assets)

TYT v TLH (Discovery) [2019] HKFLR 230, [2019] HKFC 177 (scope of discovery not

enlarged by three year presumption in s.17 MPPO)

MCYP v CWYW [2022] 4 HKLRD 513, [2022] HKFC 147 (discovery of non-party company documents)

Disclosure / discovery: children

Essex CC v R [1994] Fam 167 (full and frank)

Re DH (a minor) (child abuse) [1994] 1 FLR 679 (full and frank)

Re L (A Minor) (Police Investigation: Privilege) [1997] AC 16 (HL)

A (A Child) [2014] WLR (D) 529, [2014] EWCA Civ 1577 (millionaire's defence in context of children's needs)

Divorce – grounds

Cleary v Cleary [1974] 1 All ER 498 (adultery)

Yeung Leung Yau Lin v Yeung Kam Wah [1977–1979] HKC 328, [1977] HKCFI 69 (behaviour, arranged marriage)

Lee Yuen Sam v Lee Tang Hop Wo [1977–1979] HKC 444, [1979] HKCFI 139 (cumulative behaviour)

Li Kao Feng Ning, Judy v Li Hung Lit [1983] 1 HKC 111, [1983] HKCA 300 (adultery no bar to behaviour petition)

LCM v LYY [2003] 2 HKLRD 690, [2003] HKCA 396 (separation)

Wong Chan Oi Ying Sarita v Wong Yiu Cho [2007] HKFC 5 (behaviour, whether reasonable to expect cohabitation an objective question)

FHFk v NCM [2008] HKCA 254 (setting aside decree absolute)

BL v SJY [2009] HKFC 23 (behaviour: affairs, abuse, neglect)

KJA v KYSH fka YSH [\[2014\] HKFC 71](#)
(contested behaviour petition, costs)

WCP v TPW [2015] HKFLR 118, [\[2015\] HKFC 22](#) (behaviour, defended petition)

**Owens v Owens* [2018] 4 All ER 721, [\[2018\] UKSC 41](#) (unreasonable behaviour)

THY v CHFR [\[2018\] HKCA 240](#) [8]-[16] (modern approach to grounds, no further inquiries if separation found, cross-petition dismissed)

M v L [\[2020\] HKCA 255](#) [15] (modern approach to grounds, adulterly not considered where separation found)

Divorce – procedure

Quincey Kun Yuan v Wong E Yuan (alias Wang Bei Lee) [1964] HKLR 895 (foreign decree of divorce)

Ives v Ives [1967] HKLR 423

Cheng Bong Nang v Cheng Ho Fai [1973–1976] HKC 137

Wong Tat-lun Eddie v Wong Chan Siu-ping [\[1987\] HKCA 336](#) (financial hardship and decree absolute)

Lau Chu v Lau Tang Su-ping [1989] 2 HKLR 470, [\[1989\] HKCA 294](#)

Chiu v Chiu [\[1992\] HKCA 214](#) (retrial)

Li Wai Tat v Li Man York [1998] 1 HKLRD 121, [\[1997\] HKCA 542](#) (witness subpoenas)

Zinkin v Wong, Jennie [2000] 1 HKC 642, [\[1999\] HKCA 460](#) (decree absolute made prior to resolve of ancillary relief application)

Chan Cheung Ming Jacky v Siu Sin Man [2014] 5 HKLRD 89, [\[2014\] HKCA 404](#) (subpoenas, guardianship context)

Domestic violence

Vaughan v Vaughan [1973] 3 All ER 449

Davis v Johnson [1979] AC 264

Horner v Horner [1982] Fam 90

Spencer v Camacho (1983) 4 FLR 662

George v George [1986] 2 FLR 347

Re N (Minors) (Wardship: Evidence) [1987] 1 FLR 65

Smith v Smith [1988] 1 FLR 179

Chan Chun Hon v Chan Lam Lai Bing Shirley [1994] 3 HKC 196; [\[1994\] HKCA 392](#)

L v T [\[1995\] HKFC 2](#) [19]-[23] (ouster, threshold of physical danger or violence, other factors)

Re H (Minors) (Sexual Abuse: Standard of Proof) [1996] AC 563

S v M (Access Order) [1997] 1 FLR 980, [\[1997\] UKHL 1](#) (hearsay evidence of assault)

L v N [\[2001\] HKFC 2](#)

P v L [2007] 1 HKLRD 2, [\[2006\] HKFC 20](#) [80] (costs where ouster application unsuccessful and delayed)

P v C [\[2006\] HKFC 27](#) [22]-[24] (collection of definitions of ‘molestation’)

Re A (Children) (Pool of Perpetrators) [\[2022\] EWCA Civ 1348](#), [2023] 1 FLR 565 (fact finding, multiple possible perpetrators of abuse)

YLS v TL [\[2008\] HKFC 29](#) (non-molestation, new threat)

Re B (Care Proceedings: Standard of Proof) [\[2008\] UKHL 35](#) (HL)

S v L [\[2009\] HKFC 10](#)

D v L [\[2014\] HKFC 26](#) [3] American Cyanamid governs [48]-[53] (non-disclosure in non-molestation order application)

L v K [\[2014\] HKFC 105](#)

NAV v JTMW [[2017 HKFC 24](#)] [127]-[129] (costs where non-molestation order compromised)

Duxbury calculations

**Duxbury v Duxbury* [1987] 1 FLR 7 (CA)

Gojkovic v Gojkovic (No 2) [1992] 1 All ER 267, [1991] 3 WLR 621 (CA)

F v F (Financial Provision: Reasonable Needs) [1995] 2 FLR 45

F v F [2003] 1 HKLRD 836, [[2003 HKCFI 111](#)]

Pearce v Pearce [2004] 1 WLR 68, [2003] 2 FLR 1144

HCTT v TYYC [2008] HKFLR 286, [[2008 HKCA 261](#)] (whether short periodic payments achieve clean break)

WLK v TMC [2011] HKFLR 119, [[2010 HKCFA 69](#)] (application of *LKW v DD*, lump sum percentage provided for contribution and compensation)

Simon v Helmot [[2012 UK PC 5](#)] [60]-[72] (Duxbury is 'fair', modifications of Duxbury)

Chan Pak Ting v Chan Chi Kuen (No 2) [2013] 2 HKLRD 1, [[2013 HKCFI 179](#)] (setting discount rates)

YN aka YN (A) v NA [[2014 HKCA 166](#)] [37] (weight given to rate of return for first instance judge, not lightly interfered with on appeal)

H v H [2015] 2 FLR 447, [[2014 EWCA Civ 1523](#)] (whether rate of return should have been net or gross)

JL v SL (no 3) [2015] 2 FLR 1220, [[2015 EWHC 555 \(Fam\)](#)] (whether 3.75% rate reasonable)

**WYSL v FHCBA* [2019] HKFLR 345, [[2019 HKCA 814](#)] [62]-[66] (whether Duxbury award should replace ten-year lump sum granted after trial)

Equality and sharing

White v White [2001] 1 AC 596, [[2000 UKHL 54](#)] (reasonable needs no longer good law, equality should be departed from only and to the extent that there is good reason to)

Cowan v Cowan [2002] Fam 97, [[2001 EWCA Civ 679](#)] (no rule of equality from *White*, gender assumptions should be voided, fair distribution flexible)

**Miller, McFarlane* [2006] 2 AC 618, [[2006 UKHL 24](#)] [16] (equality an aid, not a rule)

B v B [[2008 EWCA Civ 284](#)] [54], [60] (fairness a matter of judgment, two overriding questions of fairness and non-discrimination)

**LKW v DD* (2010) 13 HKCFAR 537, [[2010 HKCFA 70](#)] [57]-[61] (equality adopted)

CSY v CPK [2019] HKFLR 172, [[2019 HKFC 129](#)] [133] (nominal maintenance to protect against change in earning capacity)

LPS v HKC (Ancillary relief; short marriage, equal division) [2020] HKFLR 36, [[2020 HKCA 161](#)] [5.2] (equal distribution in short marriage unusual but not appealable where equal ownership found in fact at trial)

Evidence, experts and SIRs in children's matters

Re N (Minors) (Wardship: Evidence) [1987] 1 FLR 65

Wong Chiu Ngar Chi v Wong Hon Wai, Linus [[1987 HKCA 257](#)] [17] (little weight to young children's (10 and 6½) views expressed through child psychologist)

W v W (A minor: custody appeal) [1988] 2 FLR 505

Re H (Minors) [1996] AC 563, [[1995 UKHL 16](#)] [73]-[74] (balance of probabilities informed by likelihood of event)

S v M (Access Order) [1997] 1 FLR 980, [\[1997\] UKHL 1](#) (hearsay evidence of assault)

Zhen Ziao Ting v Yu San Chuen [2001] 1 HKLRD 261, [\[2000\] HKCA 470](#)

WSM v FSY (A Minor: Custody Appeal) [2005] 3 HKC 319, [\[2005\] HKCA 302](#) [22]-[24] (desirable though not mandatory to note why report not followed)

H v M [\[2007\] HKFC 18](#) (stay application, delayed reliance on psychological reports)

Re B (Care Proceedings: Standard of Proof) [2008] 2 FLR 141, [\[2008\] UKHL 35](#)

W (Children) [2010] WLR 701, [\[2010\] UKSC 12](#) (whether children should give evidence)

PL v WYY [2012] HKFLR 327, [\[2012\] HKFC 40](#) (difficulty of dealing with coaching and alienation)

H v N [2012] 5 HKLRD 498, [\[2012\] HKCFI 1533](#) (variation of interim order)

TG (A Child) [\[2013\] EWCA Civ 5](#) (22 January 2013), (2013) 130 BMLR 169, 130 BMLR 169, [2013] Fam Law 264, [2013] 1 FLR 1250, [2013] 1 FCR 229 (case management, admission of experts)

LYAG v YSG (YX) [\[2016\] HKCA 771](#) (psychologist's evidence beyond scope of directions, leave to appeal, case management)

NAV v JTMW [2017] HKFC 24 (MDCC findings of abuse, costs)

黎 v 凌 [2017] 5 HKLRD 629, [\[2017\] HKCA 552](#) [61] (usual though not mandatory to call for a SIR prior to making an order for custody) [74] (absence of child from jurisdiction not necessarily reason of itself to not order a report)

GDML v EJR [2019] HKFLR 94, [\[2019\] HKFC 65](#) [5]-[8] (principles *re* exclusion of expert report at interlocutory stage)

YSYM v LHB [2020] HKFLR 533, [\[2020\] HKCA 586](#) [73]-[74] (wishes of children over 10 years' old) [79]-[81] (insufficient reasons to decline to accept SWO's recommendation, where SWO following the case for years and very familiar)

H v W [\[2021\] HKCA 733](#) [39]-[45] (circumstances of when reasons ought to be given for departure from an SIR report, and the SWO ought to be given opportunity to address the Court's misgivings)

F v M [\[2021\] EWFC 4](#) [5]-[7] (proving coercive and controlling behaviour with similar factual evidence from alleged abuser's other family) [113+] (Scott Schedules of limited assistance in domestic abuse scenarios)

Re JB (A Child) [\[2021\] EWCA Civ 46](#) [11] (ABE guidance for obtaining best evidence when interviewing a child)

Financial dispute resolution

H v S [\[2009\] HKFC 14](#) [173]-[174] (desirability of mediation or FDR in children's matters)

AB v MAW [2017] 1 HKLRD 385, [\[2016\] HKCA 580](#)

BKSH nee KSH v JAB [\[2017\] HKCA 50](#) [5.6] (FDR judge hearing variation application)

LACHY v YC [2019] 2 HKLRD 529, [2019] HKFLR 373, [\[2019\] HKCA 347](#) [29]-[37] (duty to engage in constructive settlement negotiations given loss of family assets to costs and risk of collapsed proceedings)

LCC v LTLA [\[2019\] HKCA 762](#) [2]-[5] (costs of FDR appropriate where party reneged on property valuation agreed days earlier) [10] (costs of FDR 'forthwith' permissible in principle)

CSFK v HWH [2020] 2 HKLRD 586, [\[2020\] HKCA 207](#) [56]-[79] (nature of FDR

appointments and orders that can and cannot be made)

Foreign divorce, financial relief

ML v YJ (2010) 13 HKCFAR 794, [\[2010\] HKCFA 85](#) (pre-Part IIA MPPO, financial relief unavailable after foreign decree pronounced)

C (formerly known as C) v H [\[2012\] HKCFI 702](#) [26]-[35] (review of Part IIA MPPO, summary of guidance from English authority)

CMU v WPM [\[2012\] HKFC 31](#) (substantial connection threshold)

CWG v MH and Others [\[2016\] HKCA 276](#) (appeal of a Part IIA order after trial)

De Gafforj (Appeal - Hadkinson Order) [\[2018\] EWCA Civ 2070](#)

CM v XDY [2019] HKFLR 136, [\[2019\] HKC 90](#) (substantial connection for section 29AG financial relief)

Forum (non) conveniens

**Spiliada Maritime Corp v Consulex Ltd* [1987] AC 460 (starting point of contemporary law on forum non conveniens)

W v W (financial relief: appropriate forum) [1997] 1 FLR H 257

D v P (forum conveniens) [1998] 2 FLR 25

Kreng v Kreng [1999] 1 FLR 969 (bifurcation)

DGC v SLC (nee C) [2005] 3 HKC 293, [\[2005\] HKCA 308](#) (Spiliada applied to Hong Kong)

W v C [2013] HKFLR 213, [\[2013\] HKCA 142](#) (domicile and forum involving custody of child in PRC)

LN v SCCM (relocation of daughter for schooling) [2013] HKFLR 358, [\[2013\] HKCA 272](#)

**SPH v SA* (2014) 17 HKCFAR 364, [\[2014\] HKCFA 56](#), [51] (four paragraph formulation from *DGC v SLC* adopted and endorsed)

CL v ZRC [2015] HKFLR 125, [\[2015\] HKFC 82](#) (forum dispute involving PRC, discovery)

LCH v JMC (Forum and Return) [2019] 4 HKLRD 242, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1894](#) [126]-[140] (Hong Kong natural forum where child habitually residence here and where no intended application to remove)

YJH v LKHM [2019] HKFLR 418, [\[2019\] HKCFI 2030](#) (*SPH* principles applicable in children's context)

Guardianship

Re TMH (an infant) (No 2) [1962] 2 HKLR 316 (appointment of guardians through wardship)

Re M v H [2006] HKFLR 196 (DC) (s 8F, GMO)

**CLP v CSN* [2016] 5 HKLRD 530, [\[2016\] HKCA 515](#) (limits of jurisdiction under s 8D, GMO)

**QMY v GSS* (2017) 20 HKCFAR 303, [\[2017\] HKCFA 41](#) (jurisdiction over permanent resident children outside of Hong Kong at the time of application)

LTM v RJT [2019] HKCA 1004 [\[4.1\]-\[4.8\]](#) (carer's allowances)

AA v BB [\[2021\] HKCFI 1401](#), [39] (guardianship in case of non-biological parent in same-sex relationship)

Hadkinson orders

Hadkinson v Hadkinson [\[1952\] 2 All ER 567](#)

Harwich in X Ltd v Morgan-Grampian (Publishers) Ltd [1991] 1 AC 1

MA v MI [2004] 2 FLR 932

Mubarak v Mubarik (No 2) [2007] 1 WLR 271, [2006] EWHC 1260

C v C (Appeal: Hadkinson order), [2011] 1 FLR 434 [2010] EWHC 1656 (Fam)

***CWG v MH** [2014] 4 HKLRD 141, [2014] HKCA 314 [12] (questions to be asked in Hadkinson applications and civil standard of proof)

***CCMJ v SSM** [2022] HKCA 173 [25]-[26] (wilful in place of 'contumacious' terminology) [27]-[35] (reformulated conditions for *Hadkinson* order and proportionality of condition imposed)

Immigration / fundamental rights

Hai Ho Tak v Attorney General [1994] 2 HKLR 202, [1994] HKCA 406 (effect of section 11 BORO)

Minister of State for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs v Teoh (1995) 183 CLR 273, [1995] HCA 20 (Australia, legitimate expectation that exercise of discretion incorporate consideration of unincorporated CRC)

Chan To Foon & Others v Director of Immigration [2001] 3 HKLRD 109, [2001] HKCFI 295 (discussion of *Teoh* [1995] HCA 20)

Wong Kam Ping v Director of Immigration & Anor [2000] HKCFI 1317 (discussion of *Teoh* [1995] HCA 20)

Chan To Foon & Others v Director of Immigration [2001] 3 HKLRD 109, [2001] HKCFI 295 (discussion of *Teoh*)

Li Nim Han and Another v Director of Immigration [2011] HKCFI 1642 (BL 37 confers no right to 'raise' a family)

S v J (Surrogacy: Wardship) [2017] 5 HKLRD 129, [2017] HKCFI 1656 [37]-[41] (PR status under BL 24 in surrogate cases)

QT v Director of Immigration [2018] HKCFA 28 (unlawful at common law to exclude same sex spouses from dependant visa regime)

Comilang and Another v Director of Immigration (2019) 22 HKCFAR 59, [2019] HKCFA 175 (no family rights available for foreign nationals intending to remain in Hong Kong to care for resident dependant)

Leung Chun Kwong v Secretary for Civil Service & Anor [2019] 4 HKC 281, [2019] HKCFA 19 (unlawful on constitutional grounds to exclude same-sex spouses from civil service benefits)

G v DVR & Ors [2020] HKCA 307 [7.3] (court cannot interfere with removal decision, but unless and until removal the court is not absolved from duty to deal with wardship matters)

Fabio v TCAB [2020] HKCA 871 [31]-[36] (child-focused approach to assessing non-refoulement claims) [45]-[49] (practice of representation for children in non-refoulement claims)

Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Ordinance

Myers v Myers [2004] EWHC 1944 (Fam) (housing maintenance more likely by life interest than capital sum)

***Tam Wai Hung v Chow Sin Kim and Another** [2010] 5 HKLRD 640, [2010] HKCFI 979 (scope of jurisdiction, not limited by DCO limits)

LS v HSB(T)L [2013] 2 HKLRD 444, [2013] HKCA 84 [33] (more diverse investigation required than in matrimonial maintenance)

Chiu Man Fu and Others v Chiu Chung Kwan Ying [\[2013\] HKCA 293](#) (irrational disinheritance and inferences)

Ho Sing Yin v Chan Yiu Ling [\[2013\] HKCA 419](#) [21]-[28] (whether payments 'maintenance', whether inference properly drawn) [31] (pleadings guidance)

Chan Siu Man v Lam Jenny and Others [2014] 1 HKLRD 529, [\[2013\] HKCA 650](#) (claim abated by death)

Tam Mei Kam v HSBC International Trustee Ltd and Others [\[2017\] HKCA 57](#) (lump sum or periodic payments)

MH (a minor) by AS, his mother and next friend v MT [2017] 3 HKLRD 323, [\[2017\] HKCA 225](#) [41] (effect of parentage declaration re I(PFD)O)

Pang Zhengyun and Another v Chow Chun Kit [\[2017\] HKCFI 1643](#) (contempt for disposal of estate in breach of undertaking)

KHYI and Another v Personal Representative of the Estate of KKY fka KKH [\[2017\] HKFC 45](#) (whether to transfer to High Court)

HCC v LPL [2019] HKFLR 38, [\[2019\] HKFC 46](#) (unfettered discretion to extend time, particularity required, court will weigh resources against needs)

Tang Tim Chue v Tang Ka Hung Robert and Another [2018] 4 HKLRD 277, [\[2018\] HKCA 514](#) (appeal, occupation of ancestral home)

LYYC v CHL & CSMS [2019] HKFLR 166, [\[2019\] HKCA 521](#) [23] (whether person being maintained before death per s.3(1)(ix) a question for trial)

LYYC v CHL & CSMS [2020] HKFLR 699, [\[2020\] HKFC 215](#) [20] (power to order interim financial support and litigation funding in aid of application under the Inheritance Ordinance)

Judgment summonses

Gray v Servino (2001) 4 HKCFAR 419, [\[2001\] HKCFA 15](#) [22] (wrong to deprive judgment debtor of liberty following non-payment without more)

C v C [2004] 1 HKLRD 242, [\[2003\] HKCA 306](#) (true nature is that of contempt proceedings)

CYM v YML aka YMLJ [2013] 1 HKLRD 701, [\[2012\] HKCA 548](#) [51] (draconian, last resort)

**YBL v LWC* [2017] 1 HKLRD 823, [\[2016\] HKCA 629](#) [6] (role of judge where creditor unrepresented) [16] (imprisonment merely for lack of means violates BOR 5) [36]-[92] (constitutionality of the regime)

Judicial communication

Re B (Care Order: Jurisdiction) [2014] 1 FLR 900, [\[2013\] EWCA Civ 1434](#)

Bunyon & Lewis (No 3) [2013] FamCA 888

State Central Authority & Spring-Ernst (No 2) [2013] FamCA 906

Judicial interviews with children

B v B (Minors) (interviews and listing arrangements) [1994] 2 FLR 489 (CA)

D v D [1980] Fam Law 53

Re W (Children) (Leave to Remove) [2008] 2 FLR 1170

G, by his next friend Chan Lui Luna v BVR & Others [2018] 4 HKC 518, [\[2018\] HKCFI 816](#), [185]

Jurisdiction

De Reneville v De Reneville [1948] 1 All ER 56 (CA) (jurisdiction not conferred by consent in nullity)

Cammell v Cammell [1964] 3 All ER 255 (jurisdiction not conferred by consent in ancillary relief)

Savournin v Lau Yat Fung [1971] HKLR 180 (substantial connection)

R v Barnet London Borough Council, Ex p Nilish Shah [1983] 2 AC 309, [\[1982\] UKHL 14](#) (meaning of ordinary residence)

Ikimi v Ikimi [2001] 3 WLR 672, [\[2001\] EWCA Civ 873](#) (habitual residence)

**Mark v Mark* [2006] 1 AC 98, [\[2005\] UKHL 42](#) (whether domiciled or habitually resident when overstaying)

S v S [2006] 3 HKLRD 751, [\[2005\] HKCFI 1304](#) (substantial connection)

B v A [2008] 1 HKLRD 43, [\[2007\] HKCFI 934](#) (substantial connection)

RI v SSH [2010] 4 HKC 588, [\[2010\] HKCA 152](#)

**ML v YJ* (2010) 13 HKCFAR 794, [\[2010\] HKCFA 85](#) (jurisdiction to grant financial relief in aid of foreign decree)

Y v W [2011] HKFLR 482, [\[2011\] HKFC 29](#) (domicile)

LS v AD [2012] HKFLR 376, [\[2012\] HKFC 39](#) (forum, discovery in the PRC)

YS v TTWD [\[2012\] HKFC 6](#) (substantial connection and forum)

W v C (Divorce: Jurisdiction) [2013] 2 HKLRD 602 (CA) (list of factors to ascertain intention to make a permanent/indefinite home)

Vallejos v Commissioner of Registration (2013) 16 HKCFAR 45, [\[2013\] HKCFA 20](#) ('ordinary residence' in migrant worker context)

**ZC v CN* [2014] 5 HKLRD 43, [\[2014\] HKCA 389](#) (distillation of law on domicile, habitual residence and substantial connection)

JEK v LCYP (Children: Habitual Residence) [2015] 4 HKLRD 798, [\[2015\] HKCA 408](#) (habitual residence under Hague)

RKL v WL & Ors [2016] HKFLR 162, [\[2016\] HKCA 169](#); [2015] HKFLR 474, [\[2015\] HKFC 136](#) (leave to appeal, substantial connection, submission to the jurisdiction)

Re WS (Minor) (Jurisdiction: Substantial Connection) [2017] 1 HKLRD 282, [\[2016\] HKFC 146](#) (substantial connection *re* Parent and Child Ordinance made out, born in Hong Kong and lived in Mainland)

ME v CYM [2017] 4 HKLRD 739, [\[2017\] HKCFI 739](#) (habitual residence, young child, Hague Convention)

ZJW v SY [2017] HKFLR 612, [\[2017\] HKCA 614](#) (substantial connection, intermittent stays over five years)

Re WSJ (Minor) (Parentage: jurisdiction) [2019] HKFLR 18, [\[2019\] HKCA 89](#) [42] (substantial connection *re* Parent and Child Ordinance, no difference) [53] (consider service on SJ)

CM v XDY [2019] HKFLR 136, [\[2019\] HKC 90](#) (substantial connection for section 29AG financial assistance) [16] (no physical presence despite residency *via* investment visa) [20] (bank accounts in Hong Kong of limited assistance) [21] (irrelevant that PRC court would not deal with property)

Z, SN v K, VKSF [2019] HKFLR 373, [\[2019\] HKCA 840](#) (petitioner formerly domiciled in Hong Kong, but moved to Shanghai) [20]-[21] (substantial connection for trial judge; threshold to interfere: plainly wrong)

JQ v CLH [\[2021\] HKFC 105](#) (substantial connection: Hong Kong as 'economic and finance hub of the family') [2022] 2 HKLRD 632, [\[2022\] HKCA 489](#) [24] (wrong to focus on whether circumstances 'exceptional'; question always substantial connection, a 'highly fact-sensitive' question)

RM v AY [\[2023\] HKFC 59](#) (Pakistani Sharia marriage, 'monogamous marriage')

Legal Aid

DLA v Van Can On [\[1997\] HKCA 578](#) (disclosure of/access to documents held by DLA on Legal Aid Appeal)

Nguyen Trong Son v DLA [\[1999\] HKCFI 307](#) (form of notice of appeal to Registrar)

XY v Director of Legal Aid [\[2017\] HKFI 2050](#) (periodical payments for maintenance of a child)

Leung For Wing v Liu Shaouan [2018] 4 HKLRD 352, [\[2018\] HKCFI 1941](#) (whether third party joined in s17 application could recover costs from Director of Legal Aid)

WHWV v WECH [2020] HKFC 732, [\[2020\] 839](#) [32]-[33] (no jurisdiction to vacate registration of ancillary relief on Land Registry entry of matrimonial home, in effect an (impermissible) interim order for sale)

Legal representation for children

Re S (a minor) (independent representation) [1993] Fam 263, [1993] 3 All ER 36 (CA)

L v L (minors) (separate representation) [1994] 1 FCR 890, [1994] 1 FLR 156 (CA)

Re K [1994] FLC 92-461, 80 (position in Australia, recommended for adoption by the LRC)

Re T (a minor) (child: representation) [1994] Fam 49, [1993] 4 All ER 518 (CA)

Re A (a child) (separate representation in contact proceedings) [2001] 2 FCR 55, sub nom *Re A (contact: separate representation)* [2001] 1 FLR 715 (CA)

Re H (contact order) (No 2) [2001] 3 FCR 385, [2002] 1 FLR 22

R v N [2010] HKFLR 285, [\[2009\] HKFC 15](#) (separate representation of children aged 13 ½ and 7)

C v S [2018] HKFLR 159, [\[2018\] HKCFI 294](#) (separate representation)

Length of marriage

F v F [2003] 1 HKLRD 836, [\[2003\] HKCFI 111](#) [114] to [118] (cohabitation before marriage)

NA v MOT [\[2004\] EWHC 471 \(Fam\)](#) (very short marriage of only seven weeks; religious marriage)

WLK v TMC (2010) 13 HKCFAR 618, [\[2010\] HKCFA 69](#) [97]-[107] (premarital cohabitation)

EJB v CJB [2012] HKFLR 1, [\[2011\] HKCA 225](#) (short marriage)

PLTO v KLK [2013] HKFLR 224, [\[2013\] HKCA 154](#) (long marriage, trust, post separation accrual)

S v S [\[2014\] EWHC 4732 \(Fam\)](#) (effect of pre-marriage cohabitation, passive growth of assets, 22% award)

AB v FC [2017] 1 WLR 34, [\[2016\] EWHC 3285 \(Fam\)](#) (needs case, short marriage)

Sharp v Sharp [2018] 2 WLR 1617, [\[2017\] EWCA Civ 408](#) (short marriage, separate finances)

SSLT v SMFC (AR; Non-Matrimonial Assets) [2019] HKFLR 458, [\[2019\] HKFC 250](#) [170] (six years neither long nor short)

LGBT families

X, Y and Z v United Kingdom [1997] 2 FLR 892, [1997] 3 FCR 341, (1997) 24 EHRR 143, (1998) 39 BMLR 128, [1997] Fam Law 605 [36] (transgender & IVF; notion of 'family' not solely related to families created by marriage, includes de facto relationships)

Joslin v New Zealand Communication No 902/1999, [UNDoc A/57/40](#) (same-sex marriage and civil unions)

W v W [2005] HKFLR 312 (child custody & relevance of homosexuality of parent)

Minister of Home Affairs v Fourie [2005] [ZACC 19](#), 2006 (1) SA 524 (CC), 2006 (3) BCLR 355 (CC) (same-sex marriage)

B v A (parental responsibility) sub nom Re D (Contact and Parental Responsibility: Lesbian Mothers and Known Father) [2006] [EWHC 2 \(Fam\)](#)

Re G (Children) (Residence: Same-sex Partner) [2006] 1 WLR 2305, [2006] [UKHL 43](#)

Stack v Dowden [2007] [UKHL 17](#) (unmarried cohabitation relationships)

A v B and C (Lesbian Co-Parents- Role of Father) [2012] [EWCA Civ 285](#), [2012] 2 FLR 607

United States v Windsor (2013) 570 [US 133](#), SCt 2675, 186 LEd2d 808 (same-sex marriage)

W v Registrar of Marriages [2013] 3 [HKLRD 90](#), (2013) 16 HKCFAR 112 (transsexual marriage)

***QT v Director of Immigration** (2018) 21 HKCFAR 324, [2018] 4 HKC 403, [2018] [HKCFA 28](#), [62]-[76] (unlawful at common law to exclude same sex spouses from dependant visa regime)

Leung Chun Kwong v Secretary for Civil Service (2019) 22 HKCFAR 127, [2019] 4 HKC 281, [2019] [HKCFA 19](#) (employment, tax and foreign same sex marriage)

***MK v The Government of the HKSAR** [2019] 5 HKLRD 259, [2019] [HKCFI 2518](#) (denial of right to same-sex marriage and equivalent framework, not unconstitutional)

Infinger v Hong Kong Housing Authority [2020] 1 HKLRD 1188, [2020] [HKCFI 329](#) (same-sex spouses & public housing) [note: on appeal]

Ng Hon Lam Edgar v Secretary for Justice [2020] 4 HKLRD 908, [2020] [HKCFI 2412](#) (same-sex spouses & inheritance, intestacy) [note: on appeal]

***AA v BB** [2021] [HKCFI 1401](#), [27]-[28] (joint custody, care and control in case of non-biological parent in same-sex relationship)

Ng Hon Lam Edgar v Hong Kong Housing Authority [2021] 3 HKLRD 427, [2021] [HKCFI 1812](#) (same-sex spouses & home-ownership scheme housing) [note: on appeal]

Sham Tsz Kit v Secretary for Justice [2020] 4 HKLRD 930, [2020] [HKCFI 2411](#), (on appeal) [2022] 4 HKLRD 368, [2022] [HKCA 1247](#), [2023] HKCFA 28 (no general recognition of foreign same-sex marriage, obligation of government to provide alternative status for same-sex couples)

In re K (a minor) [2023] [HKCFI 2233](#) (reciprocal motherhood, common law parentage)

Maintenance pending suit / Interim maintenance

KGL v CKY [2003] 2 HKLRD 301, [2003] [HKCA 371](#) (provision of legal costs)

G v G [2003] 2 FLR 71 (robust approach to determine ability to pay where full disclosure not made)

Currey v Currey [2006] [EWCA Civ 1338](#) [13]-[22] (English principles on provision of litigation funding)

C v F [2006] HKFLR 41, [2004] [HKFC 3](#) [12]-[14] (no thorough investigation)

W v I [2008] [HKFLR 305](#), [27]-[28] (empirical approach, broad brush) [32] (unsatisfactory explanation for lack of income, approach)

YS v TTWD [\[2011\] HKFC 28](#) [12]-[13] (MPS where forum is disputed, cautious approach) [29] (*Currey* applied)

**HJFG v KCY* [2012] 1 HKLRD 95, [\[2011\] HKCA 402](#) [37], [56] (applicable principles) [57] (big money context)

CHWS v LNLA [\[2019\] HKCA 1017](#) (errors below reasonably arguable but appeal dismissed as judge within discretionary scope and MPS interim in nature)

WW v LLN [2019] HKFLR 539, [2019] 5 HKLRD 694, [\[2019\] HKCA 1278](#) [17] (assertions in Form E sufficient factual basis for MPS decision) [19]-[20] (no set-off for employment of live-in employee) [22] (permissible for MPS judge to avoid forming preliminary view on nature of parties' finances)

YN v NM (Maintenance Pending Suit) [\[2020\] EWFC 13](#) (approach where MPS sought pending application to set aside consent order in contrary terms)

ZXW v PKP [\[2020\] HKFC 21](#) [50] ('stingy' breakdown designed to give total similar to original offer)

WW v LLN (fka LSM) [2020] 2 HKLRD 487, [2020] HKFLR 298, [\[2020\] HKCA 178](#) [20]-[26] (litigation funding, overseas real property occupied by son) [44]-[46] (breakdown in evidence supporting application, degree commensurate with size of case) [63]-[68] (duration, usually to FDR)

KCMA v ABC & Ors [2020] HKFLR 371, [\[2020\] HKCFI 848](#) [46]-[53], [79] (litigation funding from family trust)

**S v C* [\[2021\] HKCA 1372](#) [6]-[7] (rarity of successful MPS appeals given discretion applied and interim nature; thresholds)

LPC v CKHA (Maintenance Orders) [2022] 4 HKLRD 546, [\[2022\] HKCA 1190](#) (approach to interim maintenance on appeal)

AD v RT [\[2023\] HKCFI 1717](#) (principles for MPS, legal costs provision – principle of equality of arms)

Mareva Injunctions (in the matrimonial context)

Ghoth v Ghoth [1992] 2 All ER 920 (CA) (sum that may be enjoined)

Mary Regina Will v Eduard William Rudolf Helmuth Will [1993] 2 HKLR 398, [\[1993\] HKCA 267](#) [18] (comparison with s 17 MPPO order)

Tan Li Hui Cheng v Tan Kian Chee [1997] 4 HKC 94, [\[1997\] HKCFI 787](#) [29] (threshold, dissipation)

Khreino v Khreino (No.2) [2000] 1 FCR 80 (offshore assets, shareholders)

C v L [\[2009\] HKFC 5](#) [61]-[68] (dissipation, differences in matrimonial context)

CK v TCH [\[2013\] HKFC 35](#) [24]-[31] (review of Mareva authorities in matrimonial context, Mareva continued)

CKK v CKF and Others [\[2018\] HKFC 53](#) (sum to be enjoined)

AK v MYNT [2019] HKFLR 200, [\[2019\] HKCA 562](#) [10] (injunction appropriate where property that may be matrimonial home is unilaterally mortgaged) [11] (no absolute requirement of undertakings in damages)

Marital agreements (nuptial agreements)

L v C [2007] 3 HKLRD 819; [\[2007\] HKCA 208](#)

Crossley v Crossley [\[2007\] EWCA Civ 1491 \(19 December 2007\)](#); [2008] 1 FLR 1467 (case management; disclosure; applications to show cause why agreement should not be followed)

**Radmacher v Granatino* [2010] 2 FLR 1900, [\[2010\] UKSC 42](#) (landmark decision; presumption of decisive weight)

**SPH v SA* (2014) 17 HKCFAR 364, [\[2014\] HKCFA 56](#) (*Granatino* approved; presumption of decisive weight where voluntary, intending to be bound and subject to fairness)

CKK v WMY [\[2014\] HKFC 124](#) (homemade agreement)

FHM v KYM & Ors [\[2015\] HKFC 24](#) (validity as preliminary issue)

WKK v LMY [\[2015\] HKFC 35](#) (offer and acceptance principles applied)

BWBP v T-KP [\[2017\] HKFC 98](#) (inherently unfair and informal agreement)

Versteegh v Versteegh [\[2018\] EWCA Civ 1050](#) (understanding of foreign property regime)

Brack v Brack [\[2018\] EWCA Civ 2862](#) (jurisdiction and applicable law clause in agreement; contracting out of sharing)

LCYP v JEK & Anor [2019] HKFLR 238, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1588](#) [137]-[139] (departure from agreement, change in financial circumstances)

Marriage

Dalrymple v Dalrymple [\(1811\) 2 Hag Con 54](#) (temporary marriage)

Hyde v Hyde [\(1866\) LR 1 P&D 130](#) (definition of Christian marriage at common law)

Kenward v Kenward [1951] P 124, [1950] 2 All ER 297 at 311 (CA) (no illusory marriage)

Loving v Virginia [\(1967\) 388 US 1](#), 18 L Ed 2d 1010, 87 SCt 1817, 18 L Ed 1010 (miscegenation: race based restrictions on right to marry and intimate relations)

Toonen v Australia Communication No 488/1992, [UN Doc CCPR](#)

[C/50/D/488/1992](#) (equality rights of homosexuals)

Wicken v Wicken [1999] Fam 224, [1999] 1 FCR 109, [1999] 2 WLR 1166, [1999] 1 FLR 293 (standard of proof re: capacity to marry)

Joslin v New Zealand Communication No 902/1999, [UNDoc A/57/40](#) (same-sex marriage and civil unions)

Minister of Home Affairs v Fourie [\[2005\] ZACC 19](#), 2006 (1) SA 524 (CC), 2006 (3) BCLR 355 (CC) (same-sex marriage)

Stack v Dowden [\[2007\] UKHL 17](#) (unmarried cohabitation relationships)

Gurung Deu Kumari v Director of Immigration [\[2010\] 5 HKLRD 219](#) (Immigration and family rights)

United States v Windsor [\(2013\) 570 US 133](#), SCt 2675, 186 LE2d 808 (same-sex marriage)

W v Registrar of Marriages [\[2013\] 3 HKLRD 90](#), (2013) 16 HKCFAR 112 (transsexual marriage)

Leung Chun Kwong v Secretary for Civil Service [\[2019\] HKCFA 19](#) (employment, tax and foreign same sex marriage)

Ma Siu Siu Vivian v Tam Wai Mun Alice & Anor [\[2019\] HKCFI 2886](#) (valid marriage under Marriage Reform Ordinance did not invalidate subsequent registry marriage; all entitled to estate per statutory intestate provisions)

MK v The Government of the HKSAR [2019] 5 HKLRD 259, [\[2019\] HKCFI 2518](#) (denial of right to same-sex marriage and equivalent framework, not unconstitutional)

Rev Balaoro v Secretary for Justice [2020] 1 HKLRD 1138, [\[2020\] HKCFI 348](#) (same-sex religious marriage ceremony legally null and void)

Parveen v Hussain [\[2022\] EWCA Civ 1434](#), [2023] 1 FLR 831 (capacity to marry; status of foreign divorce)

Lui Ming Lok v Ng Im Fong Loretta, Estate of Lui Kwan Cheung [\[2023\] HKCA 865](#) (mental incapacity renders marriage voidable not void)

Marriages under Chinese Law and Custom

Ng Ying Ho v Tam Suen Yu [1963] HKLR 923 (concubinage)

Leung Sai Lun, Robert v Leung May Ling [\[1999\] 1 HKC 605](#) (CFA) (status of Chinese customary marriages under Wills Ordinance)

C v C [\[2000\] 3 HKLRD 27](#), [2000] 3 HKC 344 (CA) (meaning of modern marriage)

Suen Toi Lee v Yau Yee Ping [\(2001\) 4 HKCFAR 474](#), [2002] 1 HKLRD 197 (status of concubinage)

Fung Sing Wai v Chow Chiu Wan [2017] 2 HKLRD 551, [\[2017\] HKCA 110](#) (PRC marriage before PRC Marriage Law of 1950, questions of essential and formal validity)

McKenzie friends

Lobo v Kripalani [1998] 2 HKLRD 325, [\[1998\] HKCA 524](#) (right to have McKenzie friends address court)

R (ex p Pelling) v Bow County Court (No 1) [1999] 1 WLR 1807 (court's discretion to allow/refuse McKenzie friends)

Re O (Children) (Hearing in Private: Assistance) [2005] 3 WLR 1191, [\[2005\] EWCA Civ 759](#) (McKenzie friends in children's hearings)

Re B [\[2016\] EWHC 2365 \(Fam\)](#) (timely service of documents on litigants in person)

Needs

Wells v Wells [\[2002\] EWCA Civ 476](#) (using shares in private company to meet needs)

B v B [\[2008\] EWCA Civ 284](#) [24] (needs where housing required) [50] (big money cases of limited assistance in medium asset circumstances)

Jones v Jones [2011] 3 WLR 582, [\[2011\] EWCA Civ 41](#) [69] (sharing and needs may be different in medium asset / non-big money cases)

AVT aka MAM v VNT [\[2015\] HKCA 310](#) (needs, short marriage)

Next friends

In the matter of TMH, an infant (No 2) [1962] HKLR 316, 323 (third party may petition the court as infant's next friend) 337 (court can order delivery up of child outside the jurisdiction) 344 (wardship can vest notwithstanding legal 'rights' of father nor statutory guardian)

In Re T (A Minor) (Child: Representation) [1994] Fam 49, 58 (next friend is not merely representative, but has independent function to act in best interests ... a divided loyalty ... can be performed by anyone sufficiently interested)

In Re S (A Minor) (Independent Representation) [1993] Fam 263, 272 (guardian ad litem may be forced to advocate for course of action conflicting with views of his child client)

Re M Minors (Repatriated Orphans) [2003] EWHC 852 (Fam), [1]-[20] (replacing solicitor next friend with public officer as next friend)

Yang Foo Oi (by Leung Ping Chiu Roy) v Chen Wai Wai [\[2019\] HKCFI 1312](#), [2019] 3 HKLRD 162

Non-removal orders

Re A-K (Foreign Passport: Jurisdiction) [1997] 2 FLR 569 (CA)

Re A (Family Proceedings: Electronic Tagging) [2009] 2 FLR 891

No order principle

S v Z [2007] HKLR 765, [\[2007\] HKFC 34](#) (discussion of no order principle on Hong Kong context)

Nullity

Wong, Michael v Wong, Joan [1946–1972] HKC 141, [\[1969\] HKCA 128](#) (non-consummation)

CCCY v CWL [1980] HKC 522, [\[1980\] HKCFI 38](#) (non-consummation)

Mok Po Shing v Lie Lie Khim [1996] 3 HKC 330, [\[1996\] HKCA 645](#) (non-consummation)

WN v XJC [2018] 2 HKLRD 627, [\[2018\] HFC 39](#) (bogus marriage still valid; divorce not nullity appropriate; lack of consummation insufficient of itself)

RM v AY [\[2023\] HKFC 59](#) (duress)

Official Solicitor

Harbin v Masterman [1896] 1 Ch 351 (CA) (inherent jurisdiction to order enquiries)

In re D (a minor) (Wardship: Sterilisation) [1976] Fam 185, 197E, 198D (not the duty or function of Official Solicitor to institute wardship proceedings)

Enfield London Borough Council v Mahoney [1983] 2 All ER 901, [1983] 1 WLR 749 (CA)

Re S (a minor) (independent representation) [1993] Fam 263, [1993] 3 All ER 36 (CA)

Re T (a minor) (child: representation) [1994] Fam 49, [1993] 4 All ER 518 (CA)

AC v AS [\[2005\] HKCFI 1059](#)

Re C (Child: Ability to Instruct Solicitor) [\[2023\] EWCA Civ 889](#)

Parentage

Knowles v Knowles [1962] 1 All ER 659, [1962] P 161 (meaning of legitimacy)

S (An Infant) v S; W v Official Solicitor [1972] AC 24, [1970] 3 All ER 107 (HL)

The Amphill Peerage [1977] AC 547, [1976] 2 All ER 411 (HL) (motherhood biological fact)

Re JS (A Minor) (Declaration of Paternity) [1980] 3 WLR 984, [1980] 1 All ER 1061 (CA)

Yeung Chung Ping v Yeung Wan Yuet Kuen [1987] 1 HKC 206 (CA)

Re F (Minor: Paternity Tests) [1993] 1 FLR 225

Re G (A Minor) (Blood Tests) [1994] 1 FLR 495

Kwan Chui Kwok & Another v Tao Wai Chun & Others [\[1995\] 1 HKC 374](#) (rebutting presumption of paternity)

Re GW (blood tests) sub nom Re A (A Minor) (Paternity: Refusal of Blood Test) [1994] 2 FLR 463

Re H (A Minor) (Blood Tests: Parental Rights) [1996] 3 WLR 506, [1996] 2 FLR 65 (CA)

Re T (Paternity: Ordering Blood Tests) [2001] 2 FLR 1190

Tang Chun Kit & Another v Tang Lo Ping [\[2004\] 4 HKC 492](#)

M v W (Declaration of Parentage) [2007] 2 FLR 270

Zhao Ying v Chow Lai Ching & Others aka Re P (Parentage: Blood Tests) [2010] 4 HKLRD 497, [\[2010\] HKCFI 673](#)

S v J (Surrogacy: Wardship) [2017] 5 HKLRD 129, [\[2017\] HKCFI 1656](#) [12] (single applicant) [21] (non-parent applicant) [22]-[28] (child without parent, guardian or person with parental responsibility)

Re WSJ (Minor) (Parentage: jurisdiction) [2019] HKFLR 18, [\[2019\] HKCA 89](#) [42] (substantial connection *re* Parent and Child Ordinance, no difference) [53] (consider service on SJ)

CH by CKYN v WKYP [2019] HKFLR 109, [\[2019\] HKFC 79](#) (scientific test) [30]-[57] (objection on privacy grounds rejected) [58]-[64] (proportionality considered) [67] (welfare generally requires truth *re* parentage)

Re A & Anor [2019] 5 HKLRD 366, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1749](#) (declaration granted *re* surrogate twins born in Mainland China)

CH (A Minor) v WKYP [2020] HKFLR 392, [\[2020\] HKCA 415](#) [24] (refusal to take scientific test or not cannot be determinative of whether one should be ordered)

Parental rights and authority

Carmarthenshire CC v Lewis [1955] AC 549 (HL) (tortious duty for children)

Re P (infants) [1962] 3 All ER 789, [1962] 1 WLR 1296 (duty to provide at common law)

Hewer v Bryant [1970] 1 QB 357 (CA)

Re D (A Minor) (Wardship: Sterilisation) [1976] 1 All ER 326, [1976] Fam 185 (best interests trump parental rights)

Dipper v Dipper [1980] 3 WLR 626, [1980] 2 All ER 722 (CA)

Gillick v West Norfolk and Wisbech Health Authority [1986] AC 112 (HL)

Re H (Minors) (Local Authority: Parental Rights) (No 3) [1991] 2 WLR 763 (CA) (application for parental rights)

Re G (A Minor) (Parental Responsibility Order) [1994] 1 FLR 504 (CA) (maternal resistance to putative father's role)

Re T (wardship: medical treatment) [1997] 1 FLR 502 (CA) (role of loving mother in determination of best interests)

M v M (Parental Responsibility) [1999] 2 FLR 737 (physical incapacity to take on parental rights)

Re J (Child's Religious Upbringing and Circumcision) [2000] 1 FCR 307, [2000] 1 FLR 571

B v A (parental responsibility) sub nom Re D (Contact and Parental Responsibility: Lesbian Mothers and Known Father) [2006] EWHC 2 (Fam)

K v W (Children-Removal from Jurisdiction) [2006] HKFLR 292 (de facto application for parental rights)

Re D (A Child) [\[2019\] UKSC 42](#) (whether parental responsibility includes giving consent to deprivation of liberty)

Party and party costs

Bartlett v Higgins [1901] 2 KB 230 (CA)

Yeung Shu v Alfred Lau & Co [2000] 1 HKLRD 231, [\[1999\] HKCA 464](#) (assessment of counsel's costs)

Periodical payments

AEM v VFM [2008] 3 HKLRD 36, [\[2008\] HKCA 7](#) (variation of index linked periodical payments)

HCTT v TYCY [2008] 5 HKC 86, [\[2008\] HKCA 261](#) [15], [47] (variation of periodical payments) [51] (clean break not possible)

MRH v GMHNK [\[2009\] HKCA 221](#) [20] (fixed sum more appropriate than percentage of salary)

KEWS v NCHC [2012] 1 HKC 254, [\[2011\] HKCA 451](#) [34]-[43] (earning capacity and superficially low income) (appeal to CFA dismissed)

CH v MEH; [2012] 1 HKLRD 751, [\[2012\] HKCA 12](#) [25] (principles on variation application) [26] (application following significant drop in asset value)

Aburn v Aburn [2017] 1 FLR 72, [\[2016\] EWCA Civ 72](#) (increase in payments after child completes privately funded secondary education)

Prohibition Orders

CWYJ v LTYE [2020] HKFLR 664, [2020] 5 HKLRD 583, [\[2020\] HKCA 913](#) [9.13]-[9.24] (fundamental rights to travel and work are material considerations to grant of prohibition order)

Relocation / permanent removal

Poel v Poel [1970] 1 WLR 1469

**Payne v Payne* [2001] Fam 473, [\[2001\] EWCA Civ 166](#) (approach to permanent removal)

Re G (Removal from Jurisdiction) [\[2005\] EWCA Civ 170](#), [2005] 2 FLR 166 (psychiatric effect on applicant parent)

Re G (Children) (Leave to Remove) [2008] 1 FLR 1587 (CA) (Payne reaffirmed)

M v B [2009] HKFLR 349, [\[2009\] HKFC 18](#) (10 and 8 years old, to Australia)

**SMM v TWM* [2010] 4 HKLRD 37, [\[2010\] HKCA 173](#) (Payne line of authorities adopted)

**MK v CK* [\[2011\] EWCA Civ 793](#) (only authentic principle is welfare)

BWBP v T-KP née DP (Children: Removal) [2012] HKFLR 103, [\[2012\] HKFC 5](#) (12 and 9 years old, South Africa, discussion of primary carer)

Re E (Relocation: Removal from Jurisdiction) [2013] 2 FLR 290, [\[2012\] EWCA Civ 1893](#)

K v K (Children: Permanent Removal from Jurisdiction) [2012] 2 WLR 941, [2012] Fam 134

S v Z (Leave to Remove) [2012] 2 FLR 581 (reasonable proposals by custodial parents)

Re F (Relocation) [2013] 1 FLR 645 (CA)

Re TC and JC (Children: Relocation) [\[2013\] EWHC 292 \(Fam\)](#), [2013] 2 FLR 484 (debts, risk of bankruptcy if compelled to stay, immigration problems, children adversely affected if mother left without them, lack of social welfare benefits, easier for father to bear the burden)

Re S (Relocation: Parental Responsibility) [2013] 2 FLR 1453 (parent could not meet child's needs if she remained)

Re F (A Child) (International Relocation Cases) [2015] EWCA Civ 882

VE (nee KE) v VRJ [\[2015\] HKFC 62](#)

ZJ v XWN [2018] 3 HKLRD 644, [\[2018\] HKCA 436](#)

BA v BL [2019] HKFLR 334, [\[2019\] HKCA 822](#) [4.20]-[4.21] (relocation order to Miami set aside following new information on appeal *re* relocation to San Diego) [4.14] (no primary carer presumption)

YSYM v LHB [2020] HKFLR 583, [\[2020\] HKCA 586](#) [70]-[73] (error to not give "real effect" to adolescents' strong wishes to be schooled overseas, or impact of decision on children) [74]-[78] (unrealistically high standards for relocation plan)

H v W [\[2021\] HKCA 733](#) [46]-[90] (permission to relocate grounded on unrealistic care plan, made during pandemic, overturned)

ZFY v SCHC [\[2022\] HKCA 794](#) [26] (fresh facts post-trial affecting access; open to judge to postpone or rescind relocation; premature for CoA)

RV v AA (Child Relocation) [2022] 1 HKLRD 593, [\[2022\] HKCA 89](#) (approach to relocation motivated by finances)

Section 18 declarations

Lau Chu alias Lau Kwok Chu v Lau Tang Su Ping [1989] 2 HKLR 470, [\[1989\] HKCA 294](#)

Wickler v Wickler [1998] 2 FLR 326

Re G (Decree Absolute: Prejudice) [2003] 1 FLR 870

J v V [2013] 1 HKLRD 203, [\[2012\] HKCFI 1877](#)

TLS nee J v RCS [\[2013\] HKFC 74](#)

R, LH v J, MS [2020] HKFLR 683, [\[2020\] HKFC 209](#) [8]-[10] (financial provision relevant to grant; Court can accept undertaking re future financial provision)

Security for costs

Re B (infants) [1965] 1 WLR 946 (security for costs)

Chung Kau v Hong Kong Housing Authority & Ors [2004] 2 HKLRD 650, [\[2004\] HKCA 86](#) [14] (principles generally)

ZJW v SY [2017] HKFLR 409, [\[2017\] HKCA 242](#) (sufficient countervailing factors shown)

AK v MYNT & Anor [\[2021\] HKCA 468](#) [5] (application for security for costs of appeal does not include for costs below)

Setting aside agreements

de Lasala v de Lasala [1980] AC 546, [\[1979\] UKPC 10](#) (capital orders 'once and for all' save in case of mistake)

Livesey v Jenkins [1985] AC 424, [\[1984\] UKHL 3](#) (continuing duties of disclosure)

Lui Sik-kuen v Lee Suk Ling [1992] 2 HKLR 371, [\[1992\] HKCA 274](#) (fresh action or appeal required to impugn)

WTM v LNCA [2012] HKFLR 159, [\[2012\] HKFC 11](#) [52] (guidelines on when to appeal and when to institute a fresh action)

Sharland and Gohil [2015] 3 FCR 481, [\[2015\] UKSC 60](#) (fraudulent non-disclosure, suggestion that there is jurisdiction to make an application within extant proceedings)

V, RHM v ES (Crossley Application) [2019] HKFLR 513, [\[2019\] HKFC 279](#) (understanding of finances and absence of legal advice, familial stress and pressure)

CWHW v KSHD & Anor [2019] HKFLR 62, [\[2019\] HKFC 70](#) (OS procedure inappropriate; insufficient evidence to set aside where witnesses not present to give live evidence)

**GM-SA v DDPJ* [2020] HKFLR 418, [\[2020\] HKCA 488](#) [35]-[54] (fresh action to set aside consent order or matters arising from the underlying AR application, can and should be brought in the District Court, suffice it is within the DC's jurisdiction, listed before the same Family Court Judge) [55] (where consent is needed to transfer from the CFI to DC, consideration should be given to transfer family proceedings to CFI, for good case management) [64]-[72] (party challenging a consent order should apply to the Family Court for stay of enforcement, which does not occur simply because a CFI application to set aside is made)

Setting aside decrees

Clifford v Clifford (1985 FLR 732) (registrar should have been informed that respondent formerly instructed solicitors, set aside)

Purse v Purse [1981] 2 All ER 465 (husband failed to inquire of wife's

whereabouts through daughter of the marriage and her husband, set aside)

LCM v LYY [2003] 2 HKLRD 690, [\[2003\] HKCA 396](#) (setting aside by appeal)

MSK v PSK [2006] 3 HKC 358, [\[2006\] HKCA 255](#) (petition not served, various orders void)

FHFK v NCM [\[2008\] HKCA 254](#) [22]-[30] (set aside where order for substituted service obtained improperly; subsequent remarriage not a bar in this instance)

TWY v CWC (Rescission of Decree Nisi) [2010] HKFLR 5, [\[2009\] HKFC 63](#) (guidelines)

L v L (setting aside decree absolute) [2010] HKFLR 427, [\[2010\] HKCA 165](#) (unopposed allegations of false petition)

JAH v VH [2013] HKFLR 664, [\[2013\] HKCA 640](#) (decree absolute set aside pending the parties compliance with the terms of the consent order)

Singh Sandeep v Adita Adila Afriani [\[2021\] HKCA 469](#) [16]-[21] (Family Court appropriate forum to set aside decree on grounds of fraud or misrepresentation, where factual disputes may arise)

Setting aside transactions: s 17 MPPO

Kemmis v Kemmis [1988] 1 WLR 1307 (CA)

Yuen Tam Wan v Ho Chan Yuet Lan & Anor [\[1993\] 2 HKC 66](#) (CA)

C v T and Others [2010] HKFLR 38, [\[2009\] HKFC 25](#) (conspiracy with children to control assets)

AC v DC & Ors [2013] 2 FLR 1499, [2013] Fam Law 956 (Fam D)

WCY v CTL & CKH [\[2011\] HKFLR 409](#) (FC)

Hodges v Hodges (1961) Times, 8 June

Trowbridge v Trowbridge [2004] 2 FCR 79 (Ch D), [2003] 2 FLR 231

W v H [2013] All ER (D) 36 (Dec)

CLC v SKW and SY Y and SKW [\[2018\] HKCA 143](#)

WYSL v FHCBA [\[2019\] HKCA 814](#) (no basis to intervene with finding of fact *re* dispositions)

TYT v TLH (Discovery) [2019] HKFLR 230, [\[2019\] HKFC 177](#) (scope of discovery not enlarged by three year presumption in s.17 MPPO)

LCYP v JEK [2019] HKFLR 31, [\[2019\] HKCFI 237](#) (*in personam* jurisdiction of foreign respondent to s.17 summons)

Shared residence

Re T (A Child), ETS v BT [2009] 1 FLR 1157, [\[2009\] EWCA Civ 20](#) [12]-[36] (summary of case law and distillation of principles)

Re S (a Child) [\[2012\] EWCA Civ 1031](#) (shared residency not appropriate)

SKP v Y, ITT [2012] HKFLR 422, [\[2012\] HKFC 62](#) (terminology to be used in relation to children's arrangements)

Soft loans

WLK v TMC (2010) 13 HKCFAR 618, [\[2010\] HKCFA 69](#) [42]-[68] (soft loan and add-back)

YSYM v LHB [\[2014\] HKFC 10](#) [117] (inferring soft loan from absence of repayment)

YKL v YCF [\[2016\] HKFC 76](#) [63] (soft loans treated with caution)

AC v MFHJ [\[2018\] HKFC 127](#) [85] (hallmarks of a soft loan)

CLC v SKW [\[2018\] HKCA 143](#) [26]-[27] (sufficient evidence of soft-loan; no legal obligation to repay)

LCYP v JEK & Anor [2019] HKFLR 238, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1588](#) [79]-[83] (soft loan added back)

Surrogacy / human assisted reproduction

Re C (A Minor) (Wardship: Surrogacy) [1985] FLR 486

Re P (Minors) (Wardship: Surrogacy) [1987] 2 FLR 421

Re W (Minors) (Surrogacy) [1991] FCR 419, [1991] 1 FLR 385

Re Q (Parental Order) [1996] 1 FLR 369 (married surrogate, sperm donor)

Re B (Parentage) [1996] 2 FLR 15

Evans v Amicus Healthcare Ltd, Hadley v Midland Fertility Services Ltd [2004] 1 FLR 67

Re R (IVF: Paternity of Child) [\[2005\] UKHL 33](#), [2005] 2 FLR 843

Re G (Surrogacy: Foreign Domicile) [2008] 1 FLR 1047

Re P (Surrogacy: Residence) [2008] 1 FLR 177

Re X [2009] Fam 71, [\[2008\] EWHC 3030 \(Fam\)](#) (parental order: retrospective authorisation of payments)

J v G (Parental Orders) [2014] 1 FLR 297, [2013] Fam Law 972 (disproportionate expenses for surrogacy)

M v F (Declaration of Parentage: Circumstances of Conception) [2014] 1 FLR 352, [2014] 1 FCR 456

Re D [\[2014\] HKFLR 495](#), [2015] 1 HKLRD 229 (under s 12 PCO for a parental order)

Re X (A Child) (Surrogacy: Time Limit) [2015] 1 WLR 745, [\[2014\] EWHC 3135 \(Fam\)](#) (parental order time limit)

S v J (Surrogacy: Wardship) [2017] 5 HKLRD 129, [\[2017\] HKCFI 1656](#) [30]

(wardship to effect care and access arrangements of surrogate)

**FH & MH v WB & HB* [2019] HKFLR 277, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1748](#) (now leading authority on parental orders, extensions of time, welfare and authorisation of expenses in surrogacy context)

**Re A & Anor* [2019] 5 HKLRD 366, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1749](#) [34]-[53] (retrospective authorisation of expenses) [78] (declaration granted *re* surrogate twins born in Mainland China) [79]-[85] (guidance *re* disclosure, joinder of surrogate mother, breakdown of expenses, expert evidence *re* surrogacy law of place of arrangement)

Re T & L (Parental Order: s.12 Parent and Child Ordinance (Cap.429)) [2022] 2 HKLRD 685, [\[2022\] HKCFI 747](#) (meaning of "home" under s.12(3)(a))

In re K (a minor) [2023] HKCFI 2233 (reciprocal motherhood, common law parentage)

Temporary removal from jurisdiction

Re K (Removal from jurisdiction: Practice) [1999] 1 FLR 1084

Re A (Security for return to jurisdiction) [1999] 2 FLR 1

Re L (Removal from Jurisdiction: Holiday) [2001] 1 FLR 241

Re S (Leave to remove from the jurisdiction: securing return from holiday) [2001] 2 FLR 507

Re A (Temporary Removal from Jurisdiction) [2005] 1 FLR 639

Re N (Leave to Remove: Holiday) [2006] 2 FLR 1124

CWY v EFO [\[2013\] HKFC 36](#) (trip to unfamiliar jurisdiction not in best interests of young child with language barrier)

Re R (A Child) [\[2013\] EWCA Civ 1115](#) (CA)
Re R (Children) (Temporary Leave to Remove from Jurisdiction) [\[2014\] EWHC 643](#) (Fam)

Third parties and trusts

O'D v O'D [1976] Fam 83

**TL v ML* [\[2005\] EWHC 2860](#) (Fam)
 (foundational authority *re* procedure to follow)

**KEWS v NCHC* (2013) 16 HKCFAR 1, [\[2013\] HKCFA 10](#) [26]-[42] (third party contributions) [40]-[53] (judicious encouragement not a novel approach, but term unhelpful)

Prest v Petrodel Resources Limited [2013] 3 FCR 210, [\[2013\] UKSC 34](#) (piercing the corporate veil)

**Kan Lai Kwan v Poon Lok To Otto & HSBC International Trustee Limited* [\[2014\] HKCFA 66](#), (2014) 17 HKCFAR 414, [2014] 6 HKC 111, [2014] HKFLR 329 [part IIAA MPPO]

Leung Wing Yi Asther v Kwok Yu Wah [\(2015\) 18 HKCFAR 605](#)

Kerman v Akhmedova [2018] 2 FLR 354, [\[2018\] EWCA Civ 307](#)

Leung For Wing v Liu Shaouan [2018] 4 HKLRD 352, [\[2018\] HKCFI 1941](#) (whether third party joined in s.17 application could recover costs from Director of Legal Aid)

**LLC v LMWA & Anor* [2019] HKFLR 74, [2019] 2 HKLRD 529, [\[2019\] HKCA 347](#) [21] (general law of property applies) [24]-[25] (whether joinder appropriate) [42] (vigorous use of case management powers) [52]-[54] (third parties expected to explore settlement)

Wan Sui Ha Alice v Ng Wing Yan [2019] 3 HKLRD 429, [\[2019\] HKDC 821](#) (stay of proceedings *re* beneficial ownership, in aid

of matrimonial proceedings concerning the same)

KCMA v ABC (On Joinder and Service) [2019] HKFLR 548, [\[2019\] HKCFI 2822](#) [49]-[67] (directions *re* service) [77]-[134] joinder of non-parties for variation of settlement / avoidance of disposition)

LCYP v JEK & Anor [2019] HKFLR 238, [\[2019\] HKCFI 1588](#) [92]-[99] (trustee would not stand in way of distribution)

Read v Panzone & Anor [\[2019\] EWCA Civ 1662](#) [114] (alternative orders, 'just in case' property is otherwise owned, should be avoided)

**Re A (Third party funding)* [2020] HKFLR 41, [\[2020\] HKCFI 493](#) (now leading local authority on third party funding)

Undertakings

Mary Regina Will v Eduard William Rudolf Helmuth Will [\[1993\] 2 HKLR 398](#) (CA)

Re an Application by Liu Lee Yuk Ching [1982] HKLR 399 (CFI)

JRB v KLWW [\[2011\] HKCA 139](#)

Z Ltd v AZ & AA-LL [1982] QB 558, [1982] 1 All ER 556 (CA)

Lau Koon Foo v Champion Concord Ltd & Anor [\(2011\) 14 HKCFAR 837](#), [2012] 1 HKC 467 (CFA)

Birch v Birch [2017] 1 WLR 2959, [\[2017\] UKSC 53](#) (jurisdiction to hear application to be released from undertaking; not an application to 'vary' undertaking)

MAR v MM [2020] HKFLR 14, [\[2020\] HKFC 49](#) [20]-[21] (no power to impose undertakings; principles summarised)

Variation

Garner v Garner [1992] FLR 573 (CA)

Waiwaiku v Waiwaiku [\[2004\] EWCA Civ 20](#) (threshold for appeal after variation)

Charalambous v Charalambous [\[2004\] EWCA Civ 1030](#), [2004] 2 FCR 721 (jurisdiction to vary an order from proceedings initiated elsewhere)

HCTT v TYYC [\[2008\] HKCA 261](#), [2008] 5 HKC 86, [2008] HKFLR 286 (CA)

AEM v VFM [2009] HKFLR 131, [\[2008\] HKCA 7](#) (variation of MPS and backdating)

SMC v JAC [2011] HKFLR 545, [\[2011\] HKFC 43](#) (no variation following relocation)

CH v MEH [2012] HKFLR 89, [\[2012\] HKCA 12](#) (variation of lump sum in consent order as to terms, not quantum)

WNWG v PBF [2012] HKFLR 147, [\[2012\] HKCA 150](#) (variation of child maintenance)

LMH v LWP (Variation of Maintenance) [2012] HKFLR 141, [\[2012\] HKCA 69](#)

****AEM v VFM (No 2) (Variation of Maintenance)*** [2013] HKFLR 124, [\[2013\] HKCA 45](#)

Critchell v Critchell [\[2015\] EWCA Civ 436](#) (needs case, inheritance received within one month of consent order, Barder event)

Morris v Morris [\[2016\] EWCA Civ 812](#) [87]-[92] (light touch review; guidance on proportionate approach to variation applications)

Wardship

Scott (otherwise Morgan) v Scott [1913] AC 417, [\[1913\] UKHL 2](#) (shorthand note of nullity suit)

Re E (an infant) [1956] Ch 23, [1955] 3 All ER 174

Re TMH (an infant) (No 2) [1962] 2 HKLR 316 (permission for child to leave jurisdiction for overseas adoption)

Re L [1968] 1 All ER 20

Re D (a minor) [1976] 1 All ER 326, [1976] Fam 185

Salford CC v C [1982] 3 FLR 153

Re E (a minor) (wardship: court's duty) [1984] 1 WLR 156 (HL)

Re Y (minors) [1984] HKLR 204

Re C (Wardship: Independent Social Worker) [1985] FLR 56

Re B [1990] 3 All ER 927, [1981] 1 WLR 1421 (CA)

X County Council v A [1985] 1 All ER 53, sub nom *Re X (a minor) (Wardship: Injunction)* [1984] 1 WLR 1422

Re SW (a minor) (Wardship: Jurisdiction) [1986] 1 FLR 24

Re N (Minors) (Wardship: Evidence) [1987] 1 FLR 65

Re M and N (minors) (wardship: publication of information) [1990] Fam 211, [1990] 1 All ER 205 (CA)

Re W (Minors) (Wardship: Evidence) [1990] 1 FCR 286, [1990] 1 FLR 203

Re A (Minors) (Wardship: Disclosure of Material) [1991] 2 FLR 473

Re S (a minor) (Wardship: Jurisdiction) [1992] 2 HKLR 39

Re W (a minor) (medical treatment: court's jurisdiction) [1992] FCR 785

Re C (a minor) (wardship: medical treatment) [\[1993\] HKCFI 314](#), [1994] 1 HKLR 60

Re M Minors (Repatriated Orphans) [2003] EWHC 852 (Fam), [28] (where parenting fails wards deserve coordinated response from range of care agencies)

CF v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2004] 2 FLR 517, [\[2004\] EWHC 111 \(Fam\)](#) (baby ward living with its mother in prison)

Re B (A Child) (Forced Marriage: Wardship: Jurisdiction) [\[2008\] EWHC 1436 \(Fam\)](#), [2008] 2 FLR 1624

Re D (Unborn Baby) [2009] 2 FLR 313

Re T (Wardship: Impact of Police Intelligence) [2009] EWHC 2440 (Fam), [2010] 1 FLR 1048

M v Y [\[2009\] HKCFI 933](#), [2009] 5 HKLRD 597

H v H (Jurisdiction to Grant Wardship) [\[2011\] EWCA Civ 796](#), [2012] 1 FLR 23 (CA)

Re S (Wardship: Stranded Spouses) [2010] EWHC 1669 (Fam), [2011] 1 FLR 305

Re K (Children with Disabilities: Wardship) [2011] EWHC 4031 (Fam), [2012] 2 FLR 745

T v S (Wardship) [\[2011\] EWHC 1608 \(Fam\)](#), [2012] 1 FLR 230

TC formerly known as TSWC v KCTC aka Re LB (Wardship: Costs) [2012] 1 HKLRD 266, [\[2011\] HKCFI 1603](#)

Re A (Children) [2014] 1 FLR 111, [\[2013\] UKSC 60](#) (jurisdiction to order return of child that has never lived or been to the England, on the basis of habitual residence or nationality)

X County Council v M [\[2014\] EWHC 2262 \(Fam\)](#)

C v N (children: wardship) [2016] 2 HKLRD 765 [2016] HKFLR 125, [\[2016\] HKCFI 531](#)

**CLP v CSN* [2016] 5 HKLRD 530, [\[2016\] HKCA 515](#) (threshold for wardship is real need)

S v J (Surrogacy: Wardship) [2017] 5 HKLRD 129, [\[2017\] HKCFI 1656](#) [30] (wardship to effect care and access arrangements of surrogate)

C v S [\[2020\] HKCA 35](#) [1.14] (proposed directions re doctor's examination liable to cause arguments and delay; court not bound by parties' submissions)

Re G (Wardship Proceedings: Adoption Application) [\[2020\] HKCFI 1886](#), [2020] 4 HKLRD 276 (private adoption, wardship)

G v DVR & Ors [\[2020\] HKCA 307](#), [20.2]-[20.5] (jurisdiction not limited to abuse, neglect, violence, danger, harm or total incapacity; real need is the crucial question, recalling *CLP v CSM*)

G v BVR & Ors [2020] 4 HKLRD 276, [2020] HKFLR 573, [\[2020\] HKCFI 1886](#) (foster parents' intervention in wardship proceedings to apply for adoption)

Wasted costs

Ridehalgh v Horsefield [1994] Ch 205, [\[1994\] EWCA Civ 40](#) (guidance on criteria and procedure)

Re G, S and M [1999] 4 All ER 471, [\[1999\] EWHC Fam 828](#) (wasted costs where experts in applications re children given insufficient material)

Ma So So Josephine v Chin Yuk Lun Francis (2004) 7 HKCFAR 300; [\[2004\] HKCFA 50](#)

DUXBURY TABLES

Converting periodical payments into a Lump Sum (authors)

The Duxbury calculation is used where parties or the court want to avoid on-going periodical payments, in favour of a ‘clean break’. Instead of periodical payments, the recipient party is given a lump sum, and is expected to invest it as capital, with the interest or investment returns being used to cover their periodical needs. The lump sum is itself exhausted over time, so that at the end of the expected needs (normally the life of the recipient) the capital is totally exhausted. This calculation is named after the parties in the seminal English case of *Duxbury v Duxbury* [1987] 1 FLR 7 (CA), which has been adopted by the Hong Kong courts since [C v C \[1990\] 2 HKLR 183](#). For further reading on the principles applied to Hong Kong conditions, see [Felix Chan & Wai-sum Chan’s article in the May 2014 edition of the Hong Kong Lawyer](#). Readers are cautioned that the life expectancy tables published below are for the general population; there may be factors in specific cases that require adjustments to these estimates: see e.g. [ND \(by her litigation friend KW\) v GD \[2021\] EWFC 53](#).

Although Duxbury calculations are relatively simple in Hong Kong, they are dependent upon the appropriate **discount rate**, which must be determined by the court having regard to the current economic landscape, and the appropriate constituents of a reasonable portfolio.

The **discount rate** is the rate of return exceeding price inflation. Therefore, the appropriate discount rate will depend upon three main factors: (1) the expected time over which it will be paid out (e.g. life expectancy); (2) the constituents of the investment portfolio that a prudent recipient should invest in; and (3) the historical performance of such a portfolio. Inflation can cause the discount rate to be negative. The High Court has set out the considerations for setting discount rates in greater detail in the personal injuries case of [Chan Pak Ting v Chan Chi Kuen \(No 2\) \[2013\] 2 HKLRD 1](#). The tables produced below are created using those considerations as guidance (see [KCMA v ABC \[2021\] HKCFI 3392](#) at [597] and [599]).

Until the creation by the Judiciary of a Duxbury Committee established to set discount rates for all cases, the appropriate investment portfolio will be a point of contention in disputed cases.

Introduction to Duxbury Calculations (MDD)

Tables A and B provide a range of Duxbury Calculations based on different levels of expenditure. **Table A** carries out the calculation based on a person’s life expectancy using their current age. **Table B** carries out the calculation based on a set number of years that the lump sum would support the expenditure requirements of the person.

A Duxbury Calculation is an iterative calculation, which is used to estimate the monetary amount a person requires to support themselves for the remainder of their life, or a fixed time period (the “**Lump Sum**”). This is computed with the following assumptions:

- a) The person would invest this amount in an investment portfolio, and the returns from this portfolio would support the person's expenditure requirements;
- b) The investment portfolio can be readily liquidated into cash to support the required expenditure;
- c) The expenditure required is inflation adjusted;
- d) The sum is exhausted at the end of the life of the person or a fixed time period; and
- e) The investment portfolio and expenditure required is constant for the remainder of the life of the person.

There are several variables that must be estimated to compute a Duxbury Calculation, which include:

- a) life expectancy or the fixed time period,
- b) inflation rate,
- c) investment portfolio, and
- d) expenditure required.

A person's life expectancy is estimated using the Hong Kong Life Tables [see **Table C**], which are produced by the Hong Kong Census and Statistics Bureau. The Hong Kong Life Tables are split by sex, and as a result **Table A** has calculations for male and female persons. In general, a woman of the same age will have a higher life expectancy than a man, which will result in a higher Lump Sum to account for the extra years of expenditure.

It is clear from the tables a lower Lump Sum is required for older individuals due to less years of remaining life. This illustrates the Duxbury Paradox, whereby a person who has a longer marriage and as a result, is older may receive a lower Capital Sum based upon the Duxbury Calculation compared with a person who has had a shorter marriage but is younger.

Inflation is taken into account, as living expenses increase over time. To estimate inflation, we have used historical data from the Census and Statistics Department of Hong Kong. For the purpose of these tables, a rate of **2.47%** has been estimated based upon the past 10 years of information.

As with last year's issue of Duxbury Etc., we have referred to the investment portfolio established by the Honourable Mr Justice Bharwaney in the personal injury case [*Chan Pak Ting v Chan Chi Kuen \(No 2\)* \[2013\] 2 HKLRD 1](#). Justice Bharwaney sets out three different portfolios dependant on the time period for claims with needs of 1) less than 5 years, 2) between 5 to 10 years and 3) over 10 years. For our Duxbury tables, we have used the Bharwaney portfolio for needs of over 10 years only. We believe this is prudent given most Duxbury calculations would be for Lump Sum payments to sustain the person for a period greater than 10 years.

For needs of over 10 years the Bharwaney portfolio is an "average" portfolio of 10% in time deposits, 70% in high quality bonds of BBB+ or better, and 20% in high quality blue-chips that qualify as "widows and orphans" stock". We have estimated the return on the Bharwaney portfolio using the investment products detailed below.

Time deposits

The Hong Kong Fixed Bank deposit rate is the rate interest that would be generated from a 12-month fixed deposit. This information has been sourced from the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and is based on the rates quoted by major licensed banks for the past ten years.

High Quality bonds

To estimate returns from bonds, we have used the Hong Kong Government Bonds, split equally between 5 years and 10 years bonds. We have used these two bonds, as it has the highest secondary turnover of HK Government bonds and could be sold and traded easily. The Government Bonds information is sourced from the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, and the rate of return is calculated based on 10 years of historical data. As of the date of this publication, The Hong Kong Government has been rated as Aa3 by Moody's, AA by Fitch and AA+ by S&P, which are all higher than the BBB+ ratings required by Justice Bharwaney.

High Quality Blue-Chips

To estimate the return from high quality blue chips, we have used the Tracker Fund. The Tracker Fund is an exchange traded fund, which according to its website (www.trahk.com) is "designed to provide investment results that closely correspond to the performance of the Hang Seng Index". The Hang Seng Index website states the index "includes the largest and most liquid stocks listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong" (i.e. typical blue-chip stocks).

Based on the investment products above and the Bharwaney Portfolio, we calculate an investment return of **2.31%**. The reader should be aware that the investment return is nominal and not real returns (i.e. it has not taken into account inflation). Duxbury calculation take into account inflation by adjusting the individual's expenditure throughout their life expectancy or the fixed period.

Please keep in mind these Lump Sums are calculated based on historical data. While historical data is useful to estimate future projections, the future environment may not be representative of the past. As conditions change, the Lump Sums in **Tables A and B** (below) will need to be revised to ensure that the figures are as reasonable as possible. In this regard, the Duxbury Tables are for indicative purposes only and on the basis that historical data relied upon will reflect future conditions.

More tailor-made calculations can be made online through the [MDD Duxbury Calculator](#) or by contacting of MDD Forensic Accountants at duxburyadmin@mdd.com.



Table A: Duxbury Tables - Life Expectancy

Annual expenditure requirement

Capital sums are in HKD '000

Age	100,000		250,000		500,000	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
25	6,744	6,082	16,860	15,205	33,719	30,410
26	6,633	5,972	16,583	14,931	33,165	29,861
27	6,523	5,863	16,306	14,657	32,613	29,314
28	6,412	5,753	16,030	14,383	32,060	28,767
29	6,302	5,644	15,755	14,110	31,509	28,221
30	6,192	5,644	15,480	14,110	30,959	28,221
31	6,082	5,535	15,205	13,838	30,410	27,676
32	5,972	5,426	14,931	13,566	29,861	27,132
33	5,863	5,318	14,657	13,294	29,314	26,588
34	5,753	5,209	14,383	13,023	28,767	26,046
35	5,644	5,101	14,110	12,752	28,221	25,504
36	5,535	4,993	13,838	12,482	27,676	24,964
37	5,426	4,885	13,566	12,212	27,132	24,424
38	5,318	4,777	13,294	11,942	26,588	23,885
39	5,209	4,669	13,023	11,673	26,046	23,347
40	5,101	4,562	12,752	11,405	25,504	22,810
41	4,993	4,455	12,482	11,137	24,964	22,273
42	4,885	4,348	12,212	10,869	24,424	21,738
43	4,777	4,241	11,942	10,601	23,885	21,203
44	4,669	4,134	11,673	10,335	23,347	20,669
45	4,562	4,027	11,405	10,068	22,810	20,136
46	4,455	3,921	11,137	9,802	22,273	19,604
47	4,348	3,815	10,869	9,536	21,738	19,073
48	4,241	3,708	10,601	9,271	21,203	18,542
49	4,241	3,603	10,601	9,006	21,203	18,013
50	4,134	3,497	10,335	8,742	20,669	17,484
51	4,027	3,391	10,068	8,478	20,136	16,956
52	3,921	3,391	9,802	8,478	19,604	16,956
53	3,815	3,286	9,536	8,214	19,073	16,429
54	3,708	3,181	9,271	7,951	18,542	15,903
55	3,603	3,075	9,006	7,689	18,013	15,377

Annual expenditure requirement

Age

Capital sums are in HKD '000

	100,000		250,000		500,000	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
56	3,497	2,971	8,742	7,426	17,484	14,853
57	3,391	2,866	8,478	7,165	16,956	14,329
58	3,286	2,761	8,214	6,903	16,429	13,806
59	3,181	2,657	7,951	6,642	15,903	13,284
60	3,075	2,553	7,689	6,382	15,377	12,763
61	2,971	2,553	7,426	6,382	14,853	12,763
62	2,866	2,449	7,165	6,121	14,329	12,243
63	2,866	2,345	7,165	5,862	14,329	11,723
64	2,761	2,241	6,903	5,602	13,806	11,204
65	2,657	2,137	6,642	5,343	13,284	10,687
66	2,553	2,137	6,382	5,343	12,763	10,687
67	2,449	2,034	6,121	5,085	12,243	10,170
68	2,345	1,931	5,862	4,827	11,723	9,653
69	2,241	1,828	5,602	4,569	11,204	9,138
70	2,137	1,725	5,343	4,312	10,687	8,623
71	2,034	1,725	5,085	4,312	10,170	8,623
72	2,034	1,622	5,085	4,055	10,170	8,110
73	1,931	1,519	4,827	3,798	9,653	7,597
74	1,828	1,417	4,569	3,542	9,138	7,084
75	1,725	1,417	4,312	3,542	8,623	7,084
76	1,622	1,315	4,055	3,287	8,110	6,573
77	1,519	1,213	3,798	3,031	7,597	6,063
78	1,519	1,213	3,798	3,031	7,597	6,063
79	1,417	1,111	3,542	2,777	7,084	5,553
80	1,315	1,111	3,287	2,777	6,573	5,553

Table B: Duxbury Tables - Fixed Period

Period (years)	Annual expenditure requirement					
	<i>Capital sums are in HKD '000</i>					
	100,000	250,000	500,000	1,000,000	2,500,000	5,000,000
5	502	1,256	2,512	5,024	12,560	25,120
6	603	1,508	3,017	6,034	15,084	30,168
7	704	1,761	3,522	7,045	17,612	35,224
8	806	2,014	4,029	8,058	20,144	40,289
9	907	2,268	4,536	9,072	22,681	45,361
10	1,009	2,522	5,044	10,088	25,221	50,442
11	1,111	2,777	5,553	11,106	27,765	55,530
12	1,213	3,031	6,063	12,125	30,313	60,627
13	1,315	3,287	6,573	13,146	32,866	65,732
14	1,417	3,542	7,084	14,169	35,422	70,845
15	1,519	3,798	7,597	15,193	37,983	75,966
16	1,622	4,055	8,110	16,219	40,548	81,095
17	1,725	4,312	8,623	17,247	43,117	86,233
18	1,828	4,569	9,138	18,276	45,689	91,379
19	1,931	4,827	9,653	19,307	48,266	96,533
20	2,034	5,085	10,170	20,339	50,848	101,695
21	2,137	5,343	10,687	21,373	53,433	106,866
22	2,241	5,602	11,204	22,409	56,022	112,044
23	2,345	5,862	11,723	23,446	58,616	117,231
24	2,449	6,121	12,243	24,485	61,213	122,427
25	2,553	6,382	12,763	25,526	63,815	127,630
26	2,657	6,642	13,284	26,568	66,421	132,842
27	2,761	6,903	13,806	27,613	69,031	138,063
28	2,866	7,165	14,329	28,658	71,646	143,291
29	2,971	7,426	14,853	29,706	74,264	148,528
30	3,075	7,689	15,377	30,755	76,887	153,774
31	3,181	7,951	15,903	31,805	79,514	159,027
32	3,286	8,214	16,429	32,858	82,145	164,290
33	3,391	8,478	16,956	33,912	84,780	169,560
34	3,497	8,742	17,484	34,968	87,420	174,839
35	3,603	9,006	18,013	36,025	90,063	180,127
36	3,708	9,271	18,542	37,084	92,711	185,422

Period (years)	Annual expenditure requirement					
	<i>Capital sums are in HKD '000</i>					
	100,000	250,000	500,000	1,000,000	2,500,000	5,000,000
37	3,815	9,536	19,073	38,145	95,363	190,727
38	3,921	9,802	19,604	39,208	98,020	196,040
39	4,027	10,068	20,136	40,272	100,680	201,361
40	4,134	10,335	20,669	41,338	103,345	206,691
41	4,241	10,601	21,203	42,406	106,014	212,029
42	4,348	10,869	21,738	43,475	108,688	217,376
43	4,455	11,137	22,273	44,546	111,366	222,731
44	4,562	11,405	22,810	45,619	114,048	228,095
45	4,669	11,673	23,347	46,694	116,734	233,468
46	4,777	11,942	23,885	47,770	119,424	238,849
47	4,885	12,212	24,424	48,848	122,119	244,238
48	4,993	12,482	24,964	49,927	124,818	249,637
49	5,101	12,752	25,504	51,009	127,522	255,044
50	5,209	13,023	26,046	52,092	130,230	260,459
51	5,318	13,294	26,588	53,177	132,942	265,883
52	5,426	13,566	27,132	54,263	135,658	271,316
53	5,535	13,838	27,676	55,352	138,379	276,758
54	5,644	14,110	28,221	56,442	141,104	282,208
55	5,753	14,383	28,767	57,533	143,834	287,667
56	5,863	14,657	29,314	58,627	146,568	293,135
57	5,972	14,931	29,861	59,722	149,306	298,611
58	6,082	15,205	30,410	60,819	152,048	304,097
59	6,192	15,480	30,959	61,918	154,795	309,591
60	6,302	15,755	31,509	63,019	157,547	315,093

Table C: Life Expectancy Tables 2023 (CSD)

Age	Women	Men	Age	Women	Men	Age	Women	Men
	(yrs remaining)			(yrs remaining)			(yrs remaining)	
0	88.84	83.09	34	64.08	49.61	68	23.02	18.91
1	87.93	82.20	35	63.08	48.63	69	22.13	18.13
2	86.94	81.21	36	62.09	47.66	70	21.26	17.36
3	85.94	80.22	37	61.09	46.69	71	20.39	16.60
4	84.95	79.23	38	60.10	45.72	72	19.53	15.86
5	83.95	78.24	39	59.11	44.75	73	18.67	15.13
6	82.96	77.25	40	58.12	43.79	74	17.83	14.42
7	81.96	76.25	41	57.13	42.83	75	17.00	13.73
8	80.96	75.26	42	56.14	41.88	76	16.18	13.05
9	79.97	74.26	43	55.15	40.93	77	15.38	12.40
10	78.97	73.27	44	54.16	39.98	78	14.59	11.77
11	77.98	72.27	45	53.17	39.04	79	13.83	11.16
12	76.98	71.28	46	52.18	38.11	80	13.08	10.57
13	75.99	70.28	47	51.20	37.17	81	12.35	10.00
14	74.99	69.29	48	50.21	36.24	82	11.65	9.45
15	74.00	68.30	49	49.23	35.32	83	10.96	8.92
16	73.01	67.31	50	48.25	34.39	84	10.30	8.41
17	72.02	66.31	51	47.27	33.48	85	9.66	7.92
18	71.03	65.32	52	46.30	32.56	86	9.05	7.45
19	70.03	64.33	53	45.32	31.65	87	8.46	7.00
20	69.04	63.34	54	44.35	30.75	88	7.89	6.56
21	68.05	62.35	55	43.39	29.85	89	7.35	6.15
22	67.06	61.37	56	42.43	28.96	90	6.83	5.75
23	66.06	60.38	57	41.47	28.08	91	6.34	5.38

24	65.07	59.40	58	40.51	27.20	92	5.88	5.02
25	88.84	58.41	59	39.56	26.34	93	5.44	4.68
26	87.93	57.43	60	38.62	25.48	94	5.02	4.36
27	86.94	56.45	61	37.68	24.63	95	4.63	4.05
28	85.94	55.47	62	36.74	23.79	96	4.26	3.76
29	84.95	54.49	63	35.80	22.95	97	3.92	3.49
30	83.95	53.52	64	34.87	22.13	98	3.60	3.23
31	82.96	52.54	65	33.94	21.31	99	3.30	2.99
32	81.96	51.56	66	33.01	20.50	100+	3.02	2.77
33	80.96	50.59	67	32.08	19.70			

These figures are produced by the Census and Statistics Department (CSD) © (originally published 16 Feb 2023). The latest figures can be obtained from www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/

General enquiries can be made to the CSD by telephone at #2582 4807 or by fax at #2802 4000 or by email at gen-enquiry@censtatd.gov.hk.

COSTS TABLES

Taxation: Judiciary Guide to Solicitors' Hourly Rates

w.e.f. 1 January 2018

High Court Rates			District Court Rates		
	No of Years of Practice	HK\$/Hour		No of Years of Practice	HK\$/Hour
a. Solicitors	More than 15 Years	5,800	a. Solicitors	More than 15 Years	3,860
	9 – 15 Years	5,200		9 – 15 Years	3,460
	7 – 8 Years	4,500		7 – 8 Years	3,000
	5 – 6 Years	3,900		5 – 6 Years	2,600
	2 – 4 Years	3,200		2 – 4 Years	2,130
	Newly admitted	2,600		Newly admitted	1,730
	Trainee solicitor	1,700		Trainee solicitor	1,130
b. Legal Clerk		1,300	b. Legal Clerk		860
c. Law Costs Draftsman		1,800	c. Law Costs Draftsman		1,800

The process by which the amount of costs is determined is known as "Taxation of costs", which is a process undertaken before a taxing master (a judicial officer) if the parties cannot reach agreement. Unless otherwise ordered, the taxing master will tax the costs claimed by the winning party on a "party and party basis". For taxation on that basis, a winning party is entitled to recover all such costs as are necessary or proper for the attainment of justice or for enforcing or defending the rights of such party whose costs are being taxed. It should be noted that one of the main components of costs to be taxed is the solicitors' costs.

The above Solicitors' Hourly Rates (SHRs) were proposed by the Law Society and were approved by the Judiciary for the purpose of assessing costs incurred by litigants during court proceedings. They reflect in general the rates which taxing masters consider appropriate and reasonable for engaging solicitors of comparable experience in such proceedings. They, however, do not necessarily reflect the actual costs being charged by the solicitors for service rendered in litigation. Further, the taxing masters are not bound by the SHRs. Each taxation is considered on its own merit and the taxing masters, in exercising their judicial discretions, may make such adjustments as they see fit. They are reviewed every 4 years by the Standing Committee on Review of Solicitors' Hourly Rates for Party and Party Taxation to better reflect the current market conditions and inflation. The Standing Committee declined to make any revision in [May 2022](#) and the next review will take place in late 2025.

Legal Aid Financial Tables

w.e.f. 1 June 2023

Financial eligibility for legal aid is described on the [Legal Aid Department website](#), including a helpful online calculator to assist applicants. Updated information is available at [this link](#). The financial and merits test for the Duty Lawyer Service is available at [its website](#).

Financial Eligibility Limits (“FEL”) for Legal Aid

Ordinary Scheme	\$433,010
Supplementary Scheme	\$2,165,060
Criminal Legal Aid	\$433,010

The Director of Legal Aid may waive FELs in cases involving a possible breach of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance / inconsistency with the ICCPR ([s 5AA of Cap 91](#)). The Director also has discretion to grant legal aid in criminal cases to an applicant whose financial resources exceed the limit if he is satisfied that it is desirable in the interests of justice to do so ([rule 15 of Cap 221D](#); and [Article 10\(2\)\(d\) of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights](#)).

Financial resources are calculated as 12 times monthly disposable income plus disposable capital. The rules for assessment of resources are set out in [Cap 91B](#). However, even if an applicant is eligible for legal aid, he or she may need to pay a contribution. Furthermore, if money is recovered through the proceedings or related proceedings, the Director of Legal Aid may have a proprietary claim over the amount recovered known as the “First Charge”.

Deductible Personal Allowances

Household Size	Amount
Applicant only	\$7,300
Applicant with 1 dependant	\$11,960
Applicant with 2 dependants	\$17,560
Applicant with 3 dependants	\$22,500
Applicant with 4 dependants	\$30,820
Applicant with 5 dependants	\$33,930
Applicant with 6 or more dependants	\$37,110

Contribution

Financial Resources			Contribution Rates	Contribution payable		
\$0	-	\$54,126.25	-	\$0		
\$54,126.26	-	\$108,252.50	2%	\$1,083	-	\$2,165
\$108,252.51	-	\$162,378.75	2.5%	\$2,706	-	\$4,059
\$162,378.76	-	\$216,505.00	5%	\$8,119	-	\$10,825
\$216,505.01	-	\$270,631.25	10%	\$21,651	-	\$27,063
\$270,631.26	-	\$324,757.50	15%	\$40,595	-	\$48,714
\$324,757.51	-	\$378,883.75	20%	\$64,952	-	\$75,777
\$378,883.76	-	\$433,010.00	25%	\$94,721	-	\$108,253

Financial Resources			Contribution Rates	Contribution payable		
\$433,010.01	-	\$649,515.00	30%	\$129,903	-	\$194,855
\$649,515.01	-	\$866,020.00	35%	\$227,330	-	\$303,107
\$866,020.01	-	\$1,082,525.00	40%	\$346,408	-	\$433,010
\$1,082,525.01	-	\$1,299,030.00	45%	\$487,136	-	\$584,564
\$1,299,030.01	-	\$1,515,535.00	50%	\$649,515	-	\$757,768
\$1,515,535.01	-	\$1,732,040.00	55%	\$833,544	-	\$952,622
\$1,732,040.01	-	\$1,948,545.00	60%	\$1,039,224	-	\$1,169,127
\$1,948,545.01	-	\$2,165,050.00	65%	\$1,266,554	-	\$1,407,283
exceeding \$2,165,050			67%	\$1,450,584 plus		

First Charge

Costs of Registration	\$2,600
Prescribed interest on amount of First Charge	2.171 % p.a.*
Amount of monthly spousal maintenance exempted	\$9,370

* This rate is adjusted annually on 1 June each year.

TAX

Tax in Hong Kong is administered by the [Inland Revenue Department](#). The most significant forms of personal tax in Hong Kong are (i) salaries tax (for employed persons), (ii) profits tax (for sole-proprietors / partnerships), and (iii) property tax.

For the full allowances, deductions and tax rate tables applicable for personal assessment for 2012/13 to present, see [the IRD's pamphlet PAM61e](#). Please note that there is a new personally applicable "Domestic Rent Deduction" of up to \$100,000 per tax year (2022/23 onwards).

Salaries tax

Salaries tax is calculated as a percentage of 'net chargeable income', i.e. income after deductions and allowances. Allowances may include: basic allowance, married person's allowance, child allowances, dependent sibling allowances, single parent allowance, and disabled dependant allowance. Deductions may include: work outgoings/expenses, approved charitable donations, self-education expenses, mandatory contributions to MPF, depreciation, losses from previous years under 'personal assessment', home loan interest, interest payments for rental property, and elderly care expenses.

For the 2018/19 tax year onwards, it is charged at the lower of the 'standard rate' (i.e. 15%) and the 'progressive rate' (i.e. 2% on the first \$50,000, 6% on the next \$50,000, 10% on the next \$50,000, 14% on the next \$50,000, and 17% on the remainder).

Profits tax

Profits tax is calculated as a percentage of the net profits arising in or derived from Hong Kong, from a trade, profession, or business (excluding profits from the sale of capital assets).

For the 2018/19 tax year onwards, the two-tiered profits tax rate comes into effect, and tax for unincorporated entities is charged at 7.5% on assessable profits up to \$2,000,000, and 15% thereafter. Note that if the taxpayer has any 'connected entities' the 'standard rate' would apply instead (i.e. 15% for unincorporated entities) – although the Commissioner of Inland Revenue may apply the two-tiered rates to one of the entities if it elects those rates. Since 2018/19, incorporated entities are charged 8.25% on assessable profits up to \$2,000,000, and 16.5% thereafter.

Property tax

Property tax is calculated as a percentage of the 'net assessable value' of a property: the annual rental income, minus irrecoverable, rent minus the rates paid by the owner minus the statutory allowance for repairs and outgoings (i.e. 20% of the sum of the foregoing). For the 2008/09 tax year onwards the rate is 15%.

MPF

The Mandatory Provident Fund (**MPF**) is Hong Kong's compulsory saving system. It was established in 2000 by the [MPF Schemes Ordinances \(Cap 485\)](#) and subsidiary legislation.

The system **applies to employees and self-employed** persons aged **18 to 64** in Hong Kong who work for **60 days** or more. Persons in Hong Kong on employment visas for 13 months or less, enrolled with a university MPF scheme or enrolled in a foreign jurisdiction, are excepted.

Contributions are required of both employers and employees, and are made to privately managed funds monitored by the [MPF Schemes Authority](#). There are two types of contribution: **mandatory contributions** must be made, and additional **voluntary contributions** may be made.

Employee mandatory contributions are presently 5% of monthly income, subject to a cap of HK\$1,500 (whichever is higher). No contribution is payable in respect of any month that an employee's income falls below HK\$7,100.

Employers may [offset long service and severance payments](#) against accrued mandatory contributions, reducing them significantly (unless prevented by the employment contract).

Self-employed [mandatory contributions](#) for annual income below HK\$85,200 are nil, between HK\$85,200 and HK\$360,000 are presently 5% of income, for annual income above HK\$360,000 the annual contribution is HK\$18,000.

Accrued **benefits are 'portable'** *ie* transferred between schemes when employees take up new employment ([section 14 of Cap 485](#)), as well as at least once per calendar year ([Rule 148A of Cap 485A](#)).

Accrued benefits from mandatory contributions and 'tax deductible voluntary contributions' (TVCs) may generally only be **withdrawn** when the participant reaches retirement age ([section 15](#)), which is presently 65 ([section 2](#)). No part of any accrued benefits in a registered scheme shall be taken in execution of a judgment debt or be the subject of any charge, pledge, lien, mortgage, transfer, assignment or alienation ([section 16](#)). Payment of accrued benefits from voluntary contributions (other than TVCs) may be withdrawn earlier in accordance with the relevant scheme rules ([section 11](#)).

As such, benefits accrued in an MPF fund are not calculated as capital assets for the purpose of eligibility for legal aid: [Report of the Subcommittee on Legal Aid \(Assessment of Resources and Contributions\) \(Amendment\) Regulation 2015](#) (CB(4)1025/14-15) §22.

CSSA

Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (**CSSA**) is a non-statutory social security scheme, established in 1993 and administered by the Social Welfare Department (**SWD**). It is intended to [provide a safety net](#) for those who cannot support themselves financially, bringing their income to a prescribed level to meet basic needs. About [230,000 persons are enrolled](#). A summary of the **policy** can be found on the [SWD's website](#). The [Pamphlet \(English\)](#) contains more information.

Eligibility. Generally, applicants must have resided in Hong Kong for **one year** and have family **assets** and **income** below prescribed figures to qualify. Persons between 15 and 59 in 'normal health' must additionally participate in the new '[Support for Self-reliance Scheme](#)' which requires that they find paid employment of 120 hours per month. Eligible persons then receive payments of standard rates and supplements so far as they are applicable less their assessable income.

Applications can be made at one of numerous [Social Security Units](#), which are [mapped here](#). There is a [sample application form](#) on the SWD website. Offices are open 8:45 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 6 pm Monday to Friday.

[Asset threshold – single person \(from 1 February 2023\)](#)

An '**asset**' includes land/properties, cash, bank savings, cash value of insurance policy, investments in stocks and shares, and other readily realizable assets.

	Asset Limit (HK\$)
Able-bodied adult	35,000
Child, elderly person, disabled person or person medically certified to be in ill-health	52,000

[Asset thresholds – family \(from 1 February 2023\)](#)

Able-bodied adults/children		Elderly persons, disabled persons or persons medically certified to be in ill-health	
No. of such members	Asset limit (HK\$)	No. of such members#	Asset limit (HK\$)
1	23,000	1	52,000
2	46,000	2	78,000
3	69,000	3	104,000
4 or above	92,000	4	130,000
		5	156,000
		6	182,000

Standard rates of assistance (from 1 February 2023)

Category	Amount of standard rates per month (HK\$)			
	Single person	Family member		
Elderly person aged 65 or above				
Able-bodied/50% disabled	4,060	3,820		
100% disabled	4,905	4,335		
Requiring constant attendance	6,900	6,325		
Ill-health/Disabled adult aged under 65 (medical certification from doctor of public hospital or clinic required)				
Ill-health/50% disabled	4,060	3,820		
100% disabled	4,905	4,335		
Requiring constant attendance	6,900	6,325		
Disabled child (below 15, or 15 to 21 receiving full-time education, excluding secondary)				
50% disabled	4,565	3,970		
100% disabled	5,410	4,840		
Requiring constant attendance	7,400	6,830		
	Single person	In a family comprising		
		not more than 2 able-bodied adults/ children	3 able-bodied adults/ children	4 or more able-bodied adults/ children
Able-bodied adult aged under 65				
Single parent/Family carer	-	3,100	2,805	2,845
Other adult	2,855	2,545	2,295	2,050
Able-bodied child	3,440	2,845	2,550	2,280

Supplements (from 1 February 2023)

Long-term supplement (payable to families involving any member who is old, disabled or medically certified to be in ill-health for the replacement of household and durable goods if they have received assistance continuously for 12 months or more). See [link](#) for updated figures.

	Rate per year (HK\$)
Single person	2,535
Family comprising 2 or more members who are old, disabled or medically certified to be in ill-health	5,070

Single Parent Supplement (payable to single parent families): HK\$405 per month

Community Living Supplement (payable to CSSA recipients who are old, disabled or medically certified to be in ill-health and who are not living in institutions to better support their stay in the community): HK\$385 per month

Transport Supplement (payable to severely disabled persons who are medically certified to be 100% disabled or in need of constant attendance and in the age group of 12 to 64): HK\$325 per month

Residential Care Supplement (payable to CSSA recipients who are old, disabled or medically certified to be in ill-health and who are living in non-subsidised residential care places): HK\$385 per month.

Employment Support Supplement (payable to CSSA recipients who are age 60-64 and engaged in employment): HK\$1,205 per month.

EDUCATION

Day Care

A limited amount of extended hours 'day care' is available at various locations throughout Hong Kong. Young children may be enrolled in a registered 'child care center' (0-3 years old) or a 'kindergarten-cum-child care centre' (0-6 years old). The hours of operation are from 8.00am to 6.00pm or 8.00pm. The monthly fees range vary and are subject to the number of days/sessions of services required. The list of child care centres and kindergarten-cum-child care centres can be found on [the SWD website](#). A fee remission scheme is available from the government through the [Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency](#).

Education System

[Kindergartens](#) in Hong Kong can be categorized as non-profit making kindergartens and private independent kindergartens, both are privately run by their sponsoring organizations which could be voluntary agencies or private enterprises. Kindergartens provide education services for child from 3 to 6 years old, most of them offers half-day classes.

[Primary](#) schools and [secondary](#) schools can be generally categorized as government / aided schools, schools under the government's direct subsidy scheme (usually referred as Direct Subsidy Scheme schools, DSS schools), private schools (including those under private independent schools scheme), schools under English Schools Foundation (usually referred as ESF schools), and international schools. The government provides free education for primary, junior and senior secondary education to all children attending public / government-funded schools. In addition, Secondary 3 leavers can also receive government full subvention for full-time courses run by the Vocational Training Council, which is an alternative of mainstream education.

School information and school lists of all types of registered kindergartens, primary school and secondary school can be found on [Education Bureau's website](#).

There are multiple and flexible pathways for local students to pursue post-secondary education in Hong Kong. There are 8 universities funded by the [University Grants Committee \(UGC\)](#) which provide first-year first-degree places and senior year undergraduate intake places. Three of those 8 UGC-funded universities, as well as the Vocational Training Council, provide publicly-funded sub-degree programmes. Also, there are quite a number of other tertiary education institutions which provide self-financing sub-degree programme.

The universities admit students at their own discretion and each university has their own admission requirements. For students with Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) results, they may apply through the [Joint University Programmes Admission System \(JUPAS\)](#). Students who are in financial needs may seek publicly-funded financial assistance through the Student Finance Office (SFO). Outstanding students can also be awarded scholarships through the [HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund](#).

Student Financial Assistance

Financial assistance for students is available from the government through the [Student Finance Office](#) of the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency. A range of means tested and non-means tested financial assistance is available for pre-primary, primary, secondary, and post-secondary/tertiary students, including: grant for school-related expenses for kindergarten students (Grant-KG), the kindergarten & child centre fee remission scheme, the school textbook assistance scheme, the school travel subsidy scheme, the subsidy scheme for internet access charges, and the tertiary student finance scheme.

International School Fees (2023-24)

School Name	Kinder. / Prim. / Second.	Location	Primary language	2023-24 Tuition Fees excluding other fees / charges (asterisk indicates 2022-23)
American International School	K / P / S	Kowloon Tong	English	\$92,320 for Kindergarten (1/2 day). \$137,800 for Kindergarten (full day). \$144,000 for Grades 1-4. \$155,000 for Grades 5-8. \$170,000 for Grades 9-12. Annual Capital Levy: first child \$12,000, Second child \$8,000, each additional child \$6,000.
American School Hong Kong	K / P	Tai Po	English	\$154,500 for KG. \$178,000 for Grades 1-4. \$189,500 for Grades 5-6. \$198,500 for Grades 7-8. \$209,500 for Grades 9-10. \$220,000 for Grades 11-12. Capital fee: \$39,000 for newly admitted students, \$26,500 annual fee for others. Application fee: \$900.
Australian International School	K / P / S	Kowloon Tong	English	\$109,600 for Reception. \$157,200 for Prep-Year 6. \$181,400 for Years 7-10. \$190,400 for Years 11-12 (HSC). \$228,700 for Years 11-12 (IBDP). Annual capital levy (for students without debenture): \$21,840. Depreciating debenture (good for 8 years): \$120,000.

Beacon Hill School	P	Kowloon Tong	English	<p>\$126,200 for Years 1-6.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$38,000 (Y1), \$36,000 (Y2), \$34,000 (Y3), \$32,000 (Y4), \$30,000 (Y5), \$28,000 (Y6).</p>
Bradbury School	P	Stubbs Road	English	<p>\$126,200 for Years 1-6.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$38,000 (Y1), \$36,000 (Y2), \$34,000 (Y3), \$32,000 (Y4), \$30,000 (Y5), \$28,000 (Y6).</p>
Canadian International School	K / P / S	Aberdeen	English	<p>\$121,500 for International Track and \$133,650 for Bilingual Track Early Years 1 and Early Years 2 (1/2 day). \$173,700 Bilingual Track Early Years 2 (full day) \$164,900 for Prep-Grade 3. \$166,500 for Grades 4-5. \$172,050 for Grade 6. \$186,300 for Grades 7-8. \$204,500 for Grades 9-10. \$215,300 for Grades 11-12.</p> <p>Annual capital levy (for students without debenture): \$36,000.</p>
Carmel School	K / P / S		English, Hebrew, Mandarin, French, Spanish	<p>\$103,500 for Nursery and Pre-K. \$175,100 for Kindergarten and Elementary. \$175,100 for High School (main stream). \$205,100 for High School (international stream).</p>
Chinese International School*	K / P / S	Braemar Hill	English, Mandarin	<p>\$183,600 for Reception. \$243,300 for Years 1-6. \$287,300 for Years 7-11. \$291,200 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>Annual capital levy: \$28,000.</p>

Christian Alliance International School	K / P / S	Lai Chi Kok	English	<p>\$128,200 for Preparatory. \$142,700 for Grades 1-3. \$150,100 for Grade 4. \$161,000 for Grade 5. \$172,100 for Grade 6. \$186,100 for Grades 7-9. \$203,500 for Grades 10-12. \$214,800 for IB Diploma Programme (Grades 11 & 12)</p> <p>Transferable Individual Capital Note: \$560,000 first child, \$504,000 for second child, and \$476,000 for third child.</p> <p>Annual capital levy (for students without debenture): \$28,000.*</p>
Clearwater Bay School	P	Clearwater Bay	English	<p>\$126,200 for Years 1-6.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$38,000 (Y1), \$36,000 (Y2), \$34,000 (Y3), \$32,000 (Y4), \$30,000 (Y5), \$28,000 (Y6).</p>
Concordia International School*	S	Kowloon Tong	English	<p>\$129,500 for Years 7-8. \$135,000 for Year 9. \$135,600 for Year 10. \$150,100 for Year 11 \$150,950 for Year 12.</p>
Delia School of Canada*	K / P / S	Kwun Tong Quarry Bay	English	<p>\$129,690 for Pre-Grade 1. \$137,210 for Grades 1-8. \$142,350 for Grades 9-10. \$148,170 for Grades 11-12.</p>
Diocesan Boys' School (IB Section)*	S	Mong Kok	English	<p>\$120,460 (local) \$202,985 for IB1 and IB2 (non-local)</p>
Discovery Bay International School	K / P / S	Discovery Bay	English	<p>\$120,100 for Nursery & Reception. \$130,200 for Years 1-6. \$172,900 for Years 7-11. \$185,500 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>Standard school development levy:</p>

				first and second child \$60,000 per student, third child and onwards \$50,000 per student.
Discovery College	P / S	Discovery Bay	English	HK\$144,000 for Years 1-6. HK\$189,800 for Years 7-11. HK\$191,300 for Years 12 & 13. Non-refundable Building Levy: HK\$7,530 per student.
French International School*	K / P / S	Jardine's Lookout Tseung Kwan O	French, English	International stream: \$128,213 for Reception. \$134,096 for Years 1-6. \$169,602 for Years 7-11. \$205,107 for Years 12-13. (See website for French stream fees) Compulsory debenture: \$90,000 (private), \$250,000 (corporate).
German Swiss International School*	K / P / S	Peak	German, English	\$68,600 for Kindergarten. \$174,400 for Years 1-6. \$207,800 for Years 7-11. \$219,700 for Years 12-13. Compulsory debenture: \$500,000 (standard, refundable), \$432,250 (development, non-refundable). Alternative pilot Capital Levy scheme from 2021/2022, \$20,000 per year.
Glenealy School	P	Mid-Levels	English	\$126,200 for Years 1-6. One time non-refundable capital levy (amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$38,000 (Y1), \$36,000 (Y2), \$34,000 (Y3), \$32,000 (Y4), \$30,000 (Y5), \$28,000 (Y6).
The Harbour School*	P / S	Kennedy Town Ap Lei Chau	English	\$205,200 for Grades 1-6. \$212,500 for Grades 7-8. \$219,900 for Grades 9-12. Annual capital levy (for students without debenture): \$33,000.

				Mandatory family debenture: \$450,000 (exempting one student from capital levy).
Harrow International School*	K / P / S	Tuen Mun	English	\$155,921 for K1-K2. \$178,538 for Years 1-5. \$203,934 for Years 6-11. \$212,023 for Years 12-13. Annual capital levy (for students without capital certificates and debentures): \$60,000.
Hong Kong Academy	K / P / S	Sai Kung	English	\$109,000 for PK1-PK2. \$207,300 for K-Grade 5. \$228,200 for Grades 6-8. \$237,780 for Grades 9-10. \$247,460 for Grades 11-12. Compulsory re-saleable family debenture: \$630,000. Annual capital levy (for each subsequent sibling after the first not covered by a debenture): \$29,000.
Hong Kong Adventist Academy	P / S	Sai Kung	English	\$109,000 for Grades 1-6. \$129,500 for Grades 7-12.
Hong Kong International School	K / P / S	South Bay Tai Tam	English	\$232,000 for R1 – Grade 5. \$238,100 for Grades 6-8. \$263,000 for Grades 9-11. \$264,000 for Grade 12. Annual capital levy: \$20,600 (included in above numbers). One-time entry fee: \$15,000. Mandatory Outdoor Programs (approximate) Grades 6-8 \$2,000-\$28,000, Grades 9-12 \$5,000-\$28,000
International Christian School	K / P / S	Shatin Ma On Shan	English	\$79,500 for R1-R2 (1/2 day). \$135,300 for Pre-Grade 1-Grade 5. \$179,200 for Grades 6-8. \$183,700 for Grades 9-12.

				Debenture (one-time promissory note): \$250,000 for first child, \$180,000 for second, \$140,000 for third, nil thereafter.
International College Hong Kong *	K / P / S	Shau Tau Kok Hong Lok Yuen	English	<p>\$22,620 for Pre-Nursery. \$74,950 for Part Time Nursery. \$130,250 for Full Time Nursery-Year 6. \$166,300 for Years 7-9. \$173,400 for Years 10-11. \$184,700 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>Primary school - Debenture (one time, non-refundable): \$70,000. Annual capital levy: \$17,500 (in addition to debenture).</p> <p>Secondary school - Debenture (one time, non-refundable, installments at enrollment and Years 7 and 8): \$100,000.</p>
International Montessori School *	K / P	Sheung Wan, South Horizons, Aldrich Bay, Stanley	English, Mandarin	<p>\$98,000 for Foundation. \$126,000 for Casa dei Bambini (1/2 day). \$181,500 for Casa dei Bambini (full day). \$181,500 for Lower Elementary. \$184,500 for Upper Elementary.</p> <p>Personal nomination right: \$120,000 (one-off, non-refundable). Capital note: \$150,000 (one-off, Casa only, \$90,000 returned upon redemption). Annual capital levy: \$35,000 (for student without capital note or personal nomination right).</p>
ISF Academy *	P / S	Pok Fu Lam	English, Mandarin	<p>\$211,610 for Foundation-Grade 5. \$245,850 for Grades 6-10. \$267,260 for Grades 11-12.</p> <p>Annual capital levy (students without capital note): \$40,000.</p>

Island School	S	Sha Tin Wai Tai Wai	English	<p>\$167,100 for Years 7-8 \$145,400 for Years 9-11. \$152,900 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (not required if already paid at an ESF primary school, amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$26,000 (Y7), \$22,300 (Y8), \$18,600 (Y9), \$14,900 (Y10), \$11,200 (Y11), \$7,500 (Y12), \$3,800 (Y13).</p>
Japanese International School	P / S	Happy Valley Braemar Hill Tai Po	Japanese English	<p>\$127,400 for all grades.</p> <p>Annual capital levy: \$15,960.</p>
Kellett School*	K / P / S	Pok Fu Lam Kowloon Bay	English	<p>\$180,400 for Reception to Year 6. \$224,200 for Years 7-11. \$230,700 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>Individual debenture (7 years): \$120,000. Sixth Form Capital Contribution (2 years): \$48,000.</p>
Kennedy School	P	Pok Fu Lam	English	<p>\$126,200 for Years 1-6.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$38,000 (Y1), \$36,000 (Y2), \$34,000 (Y3), \$32,000 (Y4), \$30,000 (Y5), \$28,000 (Y6).</p>
Kiangsu-Chekiang College	K / P / S	North Point Braemar Hill	Mandarin English	<p>\$73,390 Kindergarten (1/2 day). \$73,390 Reception (1/2 day). \$89,500 for Years 1-6. \$116,000 for Years 7-13.</p>
King George V School	S	Ho Man Tin	English	<p>\$167,100 for Years 7-8 \$145,400 for Years 9-11. \$152,900 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (not required if already paid at an ESF primary school, amount depends on year of admission to</p>

				ESF): \$26,000 (Y7), \$22,300 (Y8), \$18,600 (Y9), \$14,900 (Y10), \$11,200 (Y11), \$7,500 (Y12), \$3,800 (Y13).
Kowloon Junior School	P	Ho Man Tin	English	\$126,200 for Years 1-6. One time non-refundable capital levy (amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$38,000 (Y1), \$36,000 (Y2), \$34,000 (Y3), \$32,000 (Y4), \$30,000 (Y5), \$28,000 (Y6).
Lantau International School*	P	Cheung Sha Tong Fuk Pui O	English	\$71,000 for Reception (full day). \$92,500 for Primary 1-6. Capital contribution fee (refundable): \$21,300 for Reception and \$27,750 for Primary.
Li Po Chun United World College*	S	Shatin	English	\$300,000 for local students (tuition and boarding). \$396,000 for overseas students (tuition and boarding).
Malvern College	P / S	Providence Bay	English	\$182,820 for Prep 1-6. \$207,950 for Foundation Year 1-3. \$207,950 for Lower Sixth. Annual capital levy (for students without Individual/Corporate Nomination Right): \$42,000.
Nord Anglia International School*	K / P / S	Lam Tin Tai Tam Sai Kung	English	\$117,420 for Nursery (AM). \$83,430 for Nursery (PM). \$81,113 for Lower Kindergarten (1/2 day). \$87,550 for Upper Kindergarten (1/2 day). \$175,100 for Years 1-6. \$195,895 for Years 7-11. \$197,770 for Years 12-13. Capital enrollment fee (one time,

				non-refundable): \$100,000.
Quarry Bay School	P	Quarry Bay	English	<p>\$126,200 for Years 1-6.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$38,000 (Y1), \$36,000 (Y2), \$34,000 (Y3), \$32,000 (Y4), \$30,000 (Y5), \$28,000 (Y6).</p>
Renaissance College	P / S	Ma On Shan	English	<p>\$126,200 for Years 1-6. \$167,100 for Years 7-8 \$145,400 for Years 9-11. \$152,900 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>One time non-refundable building levy (amount depends on year of admission): \$50,000 (Y1), \$48,500 (Y2), \$41,700 (Y3), \$37,500 (Y4), \$33,300 (Y5), \$29,200 (Y6), \$25,000 (Y7), \$20,800 (Y8), \$16,700 (Y9), \$12,500 (Y10), \$8,300 (Y11), \$4,200 (Y12), nil (Y13).</p>
Sear Rogers International School *	P / S	Kowloon	English	<p>\$79,200 for Years 1-6. \$100,650 for Years 7-9. \$94,500 for Years 10-11. \$107,000 for Year 12. \$96,300 for Year 13.</p> <p>Registration fees of between \$7,200 and \$10,700.</p>

Sha Tin College	S	Sha Tin	English	<p>\$167,100 for Years 7-8 \$145,400 for Years 9-11. \$152,900 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (not required if already paid at an ESF primary school, amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$26,000 (Y7), \$22,300 (Y8), \$18,600 (Y9), \$14,900 (Y10), \$11,200 (Y11), \$7,500 (Y12), \$3,800 (Y13)</p>
Sha Tin Junior School	P	Sha Tin	English	<p>\$126,200 for Years 1-6.</p> <p>One time non-refundable capital levy (amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$38,000 (Y1), \$36,000 (Y2), \$34,000 (Y3), \$32,000 (Y4), \$30,000 (Y5), \$28,000 (Y6).</p>
Shrewsbury International School*	K / S	Tseung Kwan O	English	<p>\$99,500 for Nursery (1/2 day). \$150,000 for Nursery (full day). \$161,000 for Reception. \$185,500 for Primary 1-6.</p> <p>Annual capital levy (for students without capital certificate): half day nursery \$30,000, others \$50,000. Capital certificate (depreciating, required for Years 1 and 2): \$200,000 (standard), \$300,000 (premium).</p>
Singapore International School*	K / P / S	Aberdeen Wong Chuk Hang	English Mandarin	<p>\$91,100 for Preparatory. \$142,600 for Primary 1-6. \$182,200 for Secondary 1-4. \$221,300 for Diploma Years 1-2.</p> <p>Compulsory debenture: \$200,000 (personal), \$120,000 (personal, Singapore passport), \$500,000 (corp.). Capital levy: \$20,000 (personal debentures, annual), \$160,000 (corp. debentures, one-time).</p> <p>Entrance fee: \$13,000 (one-off, non-</p>

				refundable, for students on personal debentures).
South Island School	S	Aberdeen	English	<p>\$167,100 for Years 7-8 \$145,400 for Years 9-11. \$152,900 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>One-time non-refundable capital levy (not required if already paid at an ESF primary school, amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$26,000 (Y7), \$22,300 (Y8), \$18,600 (Y9), \$14,900 (Y10), \$11,200 (Y11), \$7,500 (Y12), \$3,800 (Y13).</p>
Spanish Primary School	K / P	Tai Po	English Mandarin Spanish	<p>\$115,000 for Years 1-4. \$125,000 for Years 5-6. \$128,000 for Years 7-9 \$138,000 for Years 10-11 \$138,000 for Years 12-13</p> <p>Capital levy: \$15,000 (annual), \$80,000 (one-off).</p>
Stamford American School	K / P / S	Ho Man Tin	English	<p>\$197,800 for Kindergarten-Grade 5. \$217,200 for Grades 6-8. \$221,600 for Grades 9-10. \$238,800 for Grades 11-12.</p> <p>Individual debenture: \$500,000. Capital levy (for students without debenture): \$150,000 (one time) or \$30,000 (annually).</p>
Victoria Shanghai Academy*	P / S	Aberdeen	English Mandarin	<p>\$149,600 for Years 1-5. \$165,700 for Year 6. \$168,100 for Years 7-8. \$169,600 for Years 9-10. \$210,060 for Years 11-12.</p> <p>Refundable capital levy (for students without debenture): \$60,000.</p>

West Island School	S	Pok Fu Lam	English	<p>\$167,100 for Years 7-8 \$145,400 for Years 9-11. \$152,900 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>One-time non-refundable capital levy (not required if already paid at an ESF primary school, amount depends on year of admission to ESF): \$26,000 (Y7), \$22,300 (Y8), \$18,600 (Y9), \$14,900 (Y10), \$11,200 (Y11), \$7,500 (Y12), \$3,800 (Y13).</p>
Yew Chung International School*	K / P / S	Kowloon Tong	English Mandarin	<p>\$80,410 (3 days), \$107,195 (4 days), \$133,980 (5 days) for Six Months – 2 years old (ECE). \$239,450 for Years 1-6. \$234,260 for Years 7-11. \$239,630 for Years 12-13.</p> <p>Primary school refundable debenture: \$350,000 (first child), \$175,000 (second), \$87,500 (third and further).</p> <p>Secondary school refundable debenture: \$470,000 (first child), \$235,000 (second), \$117,500 (third and further).</p>

CHILDHOOD TIMELINE

Age	Rights and responsibilities	Source
"Sufficient age and understanding"	Guardian or parent must take into account the views of the minor when appointing new guardian	s 6(5) of Cap 13
	Consent to medical operations	Gillick v West Norfolk and Wisbech Health Authority [1986] AC 112 (HL)
	Consent to adoption	Re S (Parent As Child Adoption Consent) [2018] 2 FLR 111
6	Attend primary school	ss 3(1) and 74(1) of Cap 279
10	Age of criminal responsibility	s 3 of Cap 226
11	Use or hire a bicycle unaccompanied by an adult	s 54 of Cap 374
12	Attend secondary school	ss 3(1) and 74(1) of Cap 279
14	Give sworn evidence in court	s 4 of Cap 8
15	Age of criminal responsibility for possession of an imitation firearm	s 20 of Cap 238
	Work on licensed premises (liquor) with permission of the Liquor Licensing Board	reg 29 of Cap 109B
16	Engage in heterosexual intercourse	s 124 of Cap 200 ; So Wai Lun v HKSAR (2006) 9 HKCFAR 530
	Engage in homosexual buggery	s 118C of Cap 200
	Marry with parental consent	s 13 of Cap 181
	Become a voting member of a registered trade union	s 17 of Cap 332
	Voluntarily admission or discharge from a mental hospital	s 30 of Cap 136

17	Pilot a private aeroplane or helicopter	art 20 of Cap 448C
	Gain admission to a post-secondary college	reg 6 of Cap 320A
18 (or majority)	Enter into contracts as an adult (save for necessities)	s 4 of Cap 26 ; Nash v Inman [1908] 2 KB 1 ; Roberts v Gray [1913] 1 KB 520
	Donate an organ	s 5D of Cap 465
	Join an employee MPF scheme	s 2(1) of Cap 485
	Drink liquor on a licensed premises	reg 28 of Cap 109B
	Work on licensed premises (liquor)	reg 29 of Cap 109B
	Purchase liquor	reg 37 of Cap 109B
	Obtain a hawker's license	reg 6 of Cap 132AI
	Obtain a library card without a guarantor	s 10 of Cap 132AL
	Pilot a commercial aeroplane or helicopter	art 20 of Cap 448C
	Vote as an elector for the Legislative Council	s 29 of Cap 542
	Work on a construction site	reg 4A of Cap 59I
	Make a valid will	s 4 of Cap 30
	Obtain a standard driving license	reg 7(1) of Cap 374B
	Get tattooed	s 3 of Cap 323
	Become a member of the executive of a registered trade union	s 17 of Cap 332
Buy tobacco products	s 15A(1) of Cap 371	
21	Become an air traffic controller	s 65 of Cap 448C
	Serve as a juror	s 4 of Cap 3
	Serve as a sole executor of a will	s 39 of Cap 10

	Stand for election to the Legislative Council or District Councils	s 37 of Cap 542 ; s 20 of Cap 547
	Marry without parental consent	s 14 of Cap 181
	Adopt a relative	s 5(1) of Cap 290
	Register as a nurse or midwife	s 8 of Cap 164 ; s 7 of Cap 162
	Obtain a non-standard driving license	reg 7(1) of Cap 374B
	Engage in heterosexual buggery	s 118D of Cap 200
25	Adopt a non-relative	s 5(1) of Cap 290

WEBSITES

ADR

Bar Association, List of Accredited Mediators

<https://www.hkba.org/Bar-List/mediators>

Bar Association, List of Accredited Arbitrators

<https://www.hkba.org/Bar-List/arbitrators>

CEDR (the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution) Asia Pacific Group

<http://www.cedr-asia-pacific.com/cedr/index.php>

Department of Justice, 'Mediation' website

<http://www.doj.gov.hk/eng/public/mediation.html>

Hong Kong Collaborative Practice Group

<https://www.hkcpq.com.hk/>

Hong Kong Family Welfare Society's Family CDR Centre

http://www.mediationcentrehk.org/Eng_index.html

Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators

<http://www.hkiarb.org.hk/>

Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC), 'Mediation' website

<http://www.hkiac.org/mediation>

Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Ltd (HKMAAL)

<http://www.hkmaal.org.hk/en/index.php>

Hong Kong Mediation Centre

<http://www.mediationcentre.org.hk/en/home/home.php>

Hong Kong Mediation Code, issued by the Working Group on Mediation of the HKSARG

<http://www.hkmaal.org.hk/en/HongKongMediationCode.php>

HKU's Community Legal Information Centre (CLIC), Guide to Arbitration

<http://www.clic.org.hk/en/topics/hkLegalSystem/arbitration/>

HKU's CLIC, Guide to Mediation

<http://www.clic.org.hk/en/topics/hkLegalSystem/mediation/>

HKU's CLIC, list of family mediation organisations

<https://www.clic.org.hk/en/topics/familyMatrimonialAndCohabitation/resolutionMethodsOtherThanDivorce/q3>

Institute of Family Law Arbitrators (IFLA)

<http://ifla.org.uk/>

International Academy of Collaborative Practice Professionals (IACP)

<https://www.collaborativepractice.com/>

Joint Mediation Helpline Office

<http://www.jointmediationhelpline.org.hk/>

Judiciary, 'Mediation' website

<http://mediation.judiciary.gov.hk/en/>

Law Society 'Panels of Mediators' website

<https://www.hklawsoc.org.hk/public/mediator/mediators.asp>

Children

Abduction

Hague Conference on Private International Law

<http://www.hcch.net/>

International Child Abduction Database

<https://www.incadat.com/>

Adoption

Hague Conference Intercountry Adoption Website

<https://www.hcch.net/en/instruments/conventions/specialised-sections/intercountry-adoption>

Social Welfare Department (Adoption Service)

http://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_public/page_family/sub_listofserv/id_adoption/se/

US State Department Intercountry Adoption Website

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/Intercountry-Adoption.html>

Child protection

Against Child Abuse

<https://www.aca.org.hk/en/>

Social Welfare Department (Family and Child Protective Services)

http://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubs_vc/page_family/sub_listofserv/id_familyandc/

Children's rights

Children's Rights Information Network

<https://home.crin.org/>

Hong Kong Committee on Children's Rights

<http://v2.childrenrights.org.hk/v2/web/index.php?lang=en>

International Bureau for Children's Rights

<http://www.ibcr.org/en>

United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/CRCIndex.aspx>

Education & Child Care

SWD List of Child Care Services (day care, kindergarten, occasional care, fee remission, special care, residential care)

http://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubs_vc/page_family/sub_listofserv/id_childcare/s/

Canadian International School

<http://www.cdnis.edu.hk>

Carmel School

<http://www.carmel.edu.hk>

The Child Development Centre

<http://cdchk.org>

Chinese International School

<http://www.cis.edu.hk>

Delia School of Canada

<http://www.delia.edu.hk>

Education Bureau

<http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/>

English Schools Foundation

<http://www.esf.edu.hk>

French International School

<http://www.fis.edu.hk>

German Swiss International School

<https://www.gsis.edu.hk/>

Harrow International School

<http://www.harrowschool.hk>

Hong Kong International School

<http://www.hkis.edu.hk>

International Montessori School

<https://www.ims.edu.hk/>

Kellett School

<http://www.kellettschool.com>

Li Po Chun United World College

<http://www.lpcuwc.edu.hk>

Health services

Child Assessment Service (Dept of Health)

<https://www.dhcas.gov.hk/en/index.html>

Family Health Service (Dept of Health)

<http://www.fhs.gov.hk/english/>

Social welfare groups

International Social Services (HK)

<http://www.isshk.org/>

Kely Support Group

<http://www.kely.org/>

Mother's Choice

<http://www.motherschoice.org/en/>

PathFinders

<http://www.pathfinders.org.hk/>

Po Leung Kuk

<http://www.poleungkuk.org.hk/en/>

Justice Centre

<http://www.justicecentre.org.hk>

Other

American Bar Association, Center on Children and the Law

http://www.americanbar.org/groups/child_law.html

Council on Human Reproductive Technology

<http://www.chrt.org.hk>

Family Council

<http://www.familycouncil.gov.hk/>

Official Solicitor's Office

<http://www.oso.gov.hk/>

Domestic Violence

Government services

SWD (IFSCs and FCPSU)

<http://www.swd.gov.hk> or

https://www.swd.gov.hk/vs/index_e.html

Hospital Authority

https://www.ha.org.hk/visitor/ha_index.asp

Hong Kong Police Force

<http://www.police.gov.hk>

Legal Aid Department

<http://www.lad.gov.hk>

NGOs

Against Child Abuse

<http://www.aca.org.hk>

Caritas, Family Crisis Support Centre

<http://fcsc.caritas.org.hk>

CEASE Crisis Centre

<http://ceasecrisis.tungwahcsd.org>

or <http://www.tungwahcsd.org/en/our-services/youth-and-family-services/family-and-child-welfare-services/CEASE/introduction;category/9>

Christian Family Service Centre

<http://www.cfsc.org.hk>

Harmony House

<http://www.harmonyhousehk.org/eng>

HELP for Domestic Workers

<https://helpfordomesticworkers.org/en/home/>

Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council

<http://www.cmac.org.hk>

Hong Kong Council of Social Services

<http://hkcss.org.hk>

Hong Kong Federation of Women

<http://www.hkfw.org>

<https://womenscentre.org.hk/En/>

Po Leung Kuk

<http://www.poleungkuk.org.hk> or Po Leung

Kuk Family Crisis Support

<http://womenrefuge.poleungkuk.org.hk>

Rainlily

<http://www.rainlily.org.hk>

Financial

Bloomberg

<http://www.bloomberg.com/>

Census and Statistics Department

<http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/>

Child care costs (SWD List of day care, kindergarten, occasional care, fee remission, special care, residential care)

http://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubs/vc/page_family/sub_listofserv/id_childcare/s/

Club membership prices

<https://www.mformembership.com/HongKong.aspx>

Companies Registry

<https://www.cr.gov.hk/en/home/index.htm>

Comprehensive Social Security

Assistance (CSSA) Scheme

http://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubs/vc/page_socsecu/sub_comprehens/

Economist Intelligence Unit

<http://www.eiu.com/>

HKU's Community Legal Information Centre (CLIC), Guide to Ancillary Relief

<https://www.clc.org.hk/en/topics/familyMatrimonialAndCohabitation/divorce/financialMatters>

The Hong Kong Association of Banks

<http://www.hkab.org.hk>

Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing

<http://www.hkex.com.hk/>

Hong Kong property prices database

<http://hk.centadata.com/>

Hong Kong Investment Funds Association

<http://www.hkifa.org.hk/eng/index.aspx>

Housing Arrangements for Divorced

Couples in Public Rental Housing Flats

<http://www.housingauthority.gov.hk/en/common/pdf/about-us/policy-focus/policies-on-public-housing/B09/B09.pdf>

Inland Revenue Department

<http://www.ird.gov.hk/>

International currency exchange rates

<http://www.xe.com/>

Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Fee Remission Scheme

<https://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/sfo/en/preprimary/kcfr/overview.htm>

The Land Registry

<http://www.landreg.gov.hk>

Land Registry Search

<https://www2.iris.gov.hk/eservices/searchlandregister/search.jsp>

Monetary Provident Fund Authority

<http://www.mpfa.org.hk/>

Civil Service Bureau – Treasury Pensions Enquiry Office

<http://www.csb.gov.hk/english/pension/tele/564.html>

Securities and Futures Commission – List of Investment Funds

<https://www.sfc.hk/en/Regulatory-functions/Products/List-of-publicly-offered-investment-products>

Social Welfare Department: Family and Child Welfare Services

http://www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubs/vc/page_family/sub_listofserv/

Tertiary education costs in Hong Kong (tuition fees and living expenses)

<http://studyinhongkong.edu.hk/en/hong-kong-education/tuition-fee-and-living-expenses.php>

Legal Assistance

HKU's Family Community Legal Information Centre

<http://familyclhc.hk/>

HKU's Community Legal Information Centre, Guide to Legal Aid

<http://www.hkclhc.org/en/topics/legalAid/>

Hong Kong Government Guide: 'How to Get Legal Advice & Assistance'

<https://www.gov.hk/en/residents/government/legal/advice/advice.htm>

Hong Kong Judiciary's Family Mediation Page

<https://mediation.judiciary.hk/tc/doc/FamilyMediation.pdf>

Hong Kong Judiciary: How to Apply for a Divorce

https://www.judiciary.hk/doc/en/court_services_facilities/divorce_201601.pdf

Hong Kong Judiciary's Resource Centre for Unrepresented Litigants (not open to matrimonial litigants)

<http://rcul.judiciary.gov.hk/rc/cover.htm>

Law Society 'Free Legal Consultation' Website

http://www.choosehklawyer.org/en/search_fl_practice_areas.asp

Legal Aid Department (24-hour Line: (852) 2537 7677)

<http://www.lad.gov.hk/>

Legal Aid Department's 'Manual for Legal Aid Practitioners'

<http://www.lad.gov.hk/eng/lap/pf.html>

Legal Aid Services Council

<http://www.lasc.hk/>

Legal Aid Services Council's 'Free Legal Assistance in Hong Kong'

<http://www.lasc.hk/eng/links/advice.php>

Legal Reference

Community Legal Information Centre (HKU) : Family, Matrimonial and Cohabitation

<http://www.clhc.org.hk/en/topics/familyMatrimonialAndCohabitation/>

Hong Kong Bar Association

<http://www.hkba.org/>

Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal

<http://www.hkcfca.hk/>

Hong Kong e-Legislation, run by the Department of Justice

<https://www.elegislation.gov.hk/>

Hong Kong Family Law Association (HKFLA)

<http://hkfla.hk/>

Hong Kong Legal Information Institute

<https://www.hklii.org/>

Human Rights Reports (Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau)

http://www.cmab.gov.hk/en/press/reports_human.htm

International Academy of Matrimonial
Lawyers

<http://www.iaml.org>

Judiciary of Hong Kong

<http://www.judiciary.gov.hk/en/index/index.htm>

Jurisprudence of the United Nations
Treaties Bodies

<http://juris.ohchr.org/>

LawCite

<http://www.austlii.edu.au/lawcite/>

Law Society of Hong Kong

<http://www.hklawsoc.org.hk/>

Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong

<http://www.hkreform.gov.hk/>

Legal Reference System, run by the
Judiciary

<http://legalref.judiciary.gov.hk/>

LegCo Electronic Records Search

http://www.legco.gov.hk/general/english/library/search_records_collection.html

Telephone Directory of the Government of
the HKSAR and Related Organizations

<http://www.directory.gov.hk/>

List of Multilateral Agreements

(Department of Justice)

<https://www.doj.gov.hk/en/external/treaties.html>

Bailiff section of the Judiciary

https://www.judiciary.hk/doc/en/court_services_facilities/bailiff_201701.pdf

<http://www.csd.gov.hk/>

Correctional Services Department

Hong Kong Police Force

<http://www.police.gov.hk/>

Bar Free Legal Service Scheme

<https://www.hkba.org/content/bar-free-legal-services-scheme>

Duty Lawyer Service

(Main Line: (852) 2526 5969)

<http://www.dutylawyer.org.hk/>

Equal Opportunities Commission

(Hotline: (852) 2511 8211)

<http://www.eoc.org.hk/>

Marriage

Application for Licensing a Place of
Worship for Celebration of Marriages

<https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/forms/forms/sf-mr-9.html>

The Immigration Department's Marriage
Registration Services

<http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/marriage.html>

Marriage Forms

<http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/forms/marriage.html>

Marriage Registries Contact Details

<http://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/contactus/marriage.html>

CONTACTS

Adoption

The International Social Service Hong Kong Branch

6/F Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2834 6863

Fax (852) 2834 7627

Email: isshk@isshk.org

Website: www.isshk.org / http://www.isshk.org/en/contact_us/

Mother's Choice

Borrett Road Office, 10 Borrett Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong

Kennedy Road Office, 42B Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong

Child Care Home, 5 Bowen Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong

Kwun Tong Office, Units A&H, 21/F, Legend Tower 7 Shing Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon

Tel: (852) 2313 5678

Whatsapp: (852) 5633 5678

Fax: (852) 2537 7681

Email: bigsisiter@motherschoice.org / info@motherschoice.org /

Website: www.motherschoice.org / <https://www.motherschoice.org/en/contact-us-2/>

Po Leung Kuk

66, Leighton Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2277 8888

Fax: (852) 2576 4509

Email: plkinfo@poleungkuk.org.hk / <https://www.poleungkuk.org.hk/en/contact-us>

Website: www.poleungkuk.org.hk

Alternative Dispute Resolution

[CEDR Asia Pacific](#)

Suite 18B Cartwright Gardens, 1 Bonham Road, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2869 1816

Fax: (852) 2869 1307

E-mail: info@cedr.com.hk

[Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre](#)

38th Floor Two Exchange Square, 8 Connaught Place Central, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2525 2381

Fax: (852) 2524 2171

Email: adr@hkiac.org

[Hong Kong Mediation Centre](#)

Room 504, 5/F, West Wing, Justice Place, 11 Ice House Street, Central, Hong Kong

General Enquiries: (852) 2866 1800

Course Enquiry: (852) 3622 2176

Mediation Service: (852) 3974 5481

Fax: (852) 2866 1299

Email: admin@mediationcentre.org.hk

Webpage: www.mediationcentre.org.hk

Judiciary Family Mediation Office

Room 113, 1/F, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2180 8066

Fax: (852) 2180 8052

Email: mediation@judiciary.hk

Co-parenting Support Centres

The Hong Kong Government (through the Social Welfare Department) subsidises five free of charge '[Specialised Co-parenting Support Centers](#)' (SCSC) across Hong Kong. These SCSCs provide separated, divorced and divorcing families with four services: (i) **co-parenting services** (counselling, parental coordination), (ii) **child contact/exchange** (safe, neutral and supervised locations for handover and access), (iii) **child-focused intervention** (intensive counselling and other services for children), and (iv) **public education** on parental responsibility. Each center is staffed by trained social workers (though they are not accredited parenting coordinators).

Referrals to SCSCs can be made by the court (through SWD) or individuals can approach them directly. The websites of these agencies normally have referral forms or they can be obtained directly at the centers.

<p>Hong Kong & Outlying Islands</p>	<p><u>KID First (Hong Kong)</u> Flats A-E, 7/F, Eastern Commercial Centre, Nos. 395-399 Hennessy Road, Hong Kong Tel. Number: 2170 1788 Fax Number: 2429 6719 E-mail: kidfirsthk@cmac.org.hk Facebook: KID First Specialised Co-parenting Support Centre (Hong Kong) <u>Service Hours:</u> Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00am to 5:30pm Friday: 2:00pm to 9:00pm Saturday: 9:00am to 9:00pm Sunday: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday & Public Holidays (Closed)</p>
<p>Kowloon East</p>	<p><u>KID First (Kowloon East)</u> Unit 10&11, 10/F, Telford House, No. 16 Wang Hoi Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon Tel. Number: 2170 4700 Fax Number: 2421 3931 E-mail: kidfirstke@cmac.org.hk Facebook: KID First Specialised Co-parenting Support Centre (Kowloon East) <u>Service Hours:</u> Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00am to 5:30pm Friday: 2:00pm to 9:00pm Saturday: 9:00am to 9:00pm</p>

	Sunday: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday & Public Holidays (Closed)
Kowloon West	Parent-child Connect Address: Unit 302, 3/F., Laford Centre, 838 Lai Chi Kok Road, Kowloon Tel: 8100 8883 Fax: 2743 5833 Email: pccc@hkfws.org.hk <u>Service Hours:</u> Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00am to 5:30pm Friday: 2:00pm to 9:00pm Saturday: 9:00am to 9:00pm Sunday: 9:00am to 12:30pm Tuesday & Public Holidays (Closed)
New Territories East (Shatin, Tai Po, North District)	Parent Child LINK Unit 1218, Shatin Galleria, No.18-24 Shan Mei Street, Fotan, Shatin, N.T. Tel: 2180 6559 Fax: 3150 8043 Email: info.pclink@bgca.org.hk Facebook: ParentChildLink <u>Service Hours:</u> Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00am to 6:30pm Friday: 1:30pm to 9:30pm Saturday: 9:30am to 9:30pm Sunday: 9:30am to 1:30pm Monday & Public Holidays (Closed)
New Territories West (Yuen Long, Tuen Mun)	Circle of Love 5/F, Wing B, Car Park Building, Tin Hang Estate, Tin Shui Wai Tel: 39213909 Fax: 31043699 Email: circleoflove@sjs.org.hk <u>Service Hours:</u> Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9:00am to 5:00pm Friday: 2:00pm to 8:00pm Saturday: 9:00am to 8:00pm Sunday: 9:00am to 5:00pm Wednesday & Public Holidays (Closed)

Counselling and Emotional Support

Family and Child Protective Services Units (of the SWD)	(852) 2343 2255
Integrated Family Service Centres (of the SWD)	(852) 2343 2255
Rainlily (Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women)	(852) 2375 5322
Po Leung Kuk Victim Support Programme	(852) 8100 1155
Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council	(852) 2810 1104
Against Child Abuse	(852) 2755 1122 (852) 3542 5722 (852) 2351 6060

	(852) 2450 2244 (852) 2915 0607
Caritas	(852) 2383 2122 (852) 3161 2930
Hong Kong Council of Social Services	(852) 2864 2929
Po Leung Kuk Victim Support Programme for Victims of Domestic Violence	(852) 8100 1155 (852) 2899 0019
St John's Counselling Service	(852) 2525 7207 (852) 2525 7208

Domestic Violence

Temporary accommodation

Christian Family Service Centre, Serene Court	for women and children	(852) 2381 3311
Po Leung Kuk Hotline (Sunrise Court, Wai On Home and Dawn Court)	for women and children	(852) 8100 1155
Harmony House	for women and children	(852) 2522 0434
Caritas, Family Crisis Support Centre	for both men and women	18 288 (852) 2383 2122
CEASE Crisis Centre	for both men and women	18 281 ceasecrisis@tungwah.org.hk
Wai On Home for Women	for women and children	(852) 8100 1155 waion@poleungkuk.org.hk
Sunrise Court	for women and children	(852) 8100 1155 sunrisecourt@poleungkuk.org.hk
Dawn Court	for women and children	(852) 8100 1155 dawncourt@poleungkuk.org.hk

Telephone hotlines for women

Social Welfare Department	24 hours	(852) 2343 2255
Harmony House	24 hours	(852) 2522 0434
HK Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse, Kwan Fook	Monday–Thursday, 10am–1pm and 2pm–5pm	(852) 2785 7745
Po Leung Kuk	24 hours	(852) 8100 1155
Christian Family Service Centre	24 hours	(852) 2381 3311
CEASE Crisis Centre, Tung Wah	24 hours	18 281
Caritas, Family Crisis Support Centre	24 hours	18 288 (852) 2383 2122
Rainlily	Monday–Friday, 9am–10pm, Saturday, 9am–1pm	(852) 2375 5322
Les Corner (for Lesbian Women)	Whatsapp, Email	(852) 5281 5201, lescorner2015@gmail.com

Telephone hotlines for men

Social Welfare Department	24 hours	(852) 2343 2255
Harmony House	Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 2pm–10pm	(852) 2295 1386
Po Leung Kuk	24 hours	(852) 2890 1830
Caritas, Family Crisis Support Centre	Wednesday 2pm– 5pm	(852) 2383 2122
Caritas, Family Crisis Support Centre	24 hours	18 288
CEASE Crisis Centre, Tung Wah	24 hours	18 281
Rainbow of Hong Kong (for Gay Men)	WhatsApp	(852) 9442 6910 info@rainbowhk.org

Judiciary, Government and Legal Assistance**Department of Justice:**

Child Abduction:

<https://www.doj.gov.hk/childabduct/en/central-authority-hong-kong/index.html>General Enquiries: <https://www.doj.gov.hk/eng/contactus/index.html>[Organization Charts](#) with contacts details (Divisions and Secretary for Justice's office)**Duty Lawyer Service:**

Suites 808-9 Harcourt House, 39 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2526 5969

Fax: (852) 2868 1754

Court Liaison Offices: <http://www.dutylawyer.org.hk/ch/contact.asp>**Hong Kong Government Telephone Directory:** <https://tel.directory.gov.hk/>**Hong Kong Judiciary:** https://www.judiciary.hk/en/about_us/business_hours.html**General Enquiries:**

G/F, High Court Building, 38 Queensway, Hong Kong (Addressed to the Judiciary Administrator)

Hotline: (852) 2869 0869

Fax: (852) 2869 0640

E-mail: enquiry@judiciary.hk**Family Court Registry:**

M2, Wanchai Law Courts, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2840 1218

Fax: (852) 2523 9170

E-mail: familycourt@judiciary.hk**Hong Kong Police Force** (Hotlines, Report Rooms, Units, Divisions etc):https://www.police.gov.hk/ppp_en/contact_us.html

Immigration:**Non-Removal of Children Contacts: Control Branch:**

https://www.doi.gov.hk/childabduct/en/related-information/abduct_riidassist.html

During office hours (except Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays)

Monday to Friday: 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 pm

Control Support Section

Room 1402, 14/F Immigration Tower 7 Gloucester Road Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2829 3521

Outside office hours

The Duty Senior Immigration Officer Departure Level (North) Hong Kong International Airport Chek Lap Kok

Tel: (852) 2182 1501

Legal Aid Department:**Headquarters:**

9F & 24/F to 27/F, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong

Hong Kong Sub-office (Family Litigation):

9F, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong

Contact list: <https://www.lad.gov.hk/eng/home/contact.html>

Tel: (852) 2537 7677 Fax: (852) 2537 5948

E-mail: ladinfo@lad.gov.hk

Social Welfare Department:

[Organization Chart and Direct Telephone numbers](#) (Director, Deputy Directors and Branch Heads)

[District Social Welfare Offices](#)

Head Office: 8/F Wu Chung House 213 Queen's Road East Wanchai, Hong Kong

Hotline: (852) 2343 2255

Fax: (852) 2838 0114

Email: swdenq@swd.gov.hk

Website: www.swd.gov.hk

Marriage

Marriage Registration and Records Office:

3/F, Low Block, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong
(MTR Admiralty Station - Exit C1)

Tel: (852) 2867 2787; General Enquiries Hotline: (852) 2824 6111

Fax: (852) 2877 7711

Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk

City Hall Marriage Registry:

1/F, High Block, City Hall, Central, Hong Kong (MTR Central Station - Exit K)

Tel: (852) 2523 0725; General Enquiries Hotline: (852) 2824 6111

Fax: (852) 2877 7711

Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk

Cotton Tree Drive Marriage Registry:

G/F, Rawlinson House, 19 Cotton Tree Drive, Central, Hong Kong
(MTR Admiralty-Station – Exit C1)
Tel: (852) 2869 0500; General Enquiries Hotline: (852) 2824 6111
Fax: (852) 2877 7711
Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk

Tsim Sha Tsui Marriage Registry:

Upper Basement & Level 3, Administration Building, Hong Kong Cultural Centre,
10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon (MTR Tsim Sha Tsui Station - Exit L6)
Tel: (852) 2312 0929 General Enquiries Hotline: (852) 2824 6111
Fax: (852) 2877 7711
Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk

Sha Tin Marriage Registry:

G/F, Sha Tin Town Hall, 1 Yuen Wo Road, Sha Tin, New Territories
(MTR Sha Tin Station - Exit A)
Tel: (852) 2604 6974 General Enquiries Hotline: (852) 2824 6111
Fax: (852) 2877 7711
Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk

Tuen Mun Marriage Registry:

1/F, Tuen Mun Government Offices, 1 Tuen Hi Road, Tuen Mun, New Territories
Tel: (852) 2618 3789 General Enquiries Hotline: (852) 2824 6111
Fax: (852) 2877 7711
Email: enquiry@immd.gov.hk

ADDRESSING JUDICIAL OFFICERS

Modes of Addressing Judicial Officers	In Court	In Writing	Less formal term
Chief Justice of the court of Final Appeal	My Lord or Your Lordship; My Lady or Your Ladyship	The Honourable Chief Justice	CJ
終審法院首席法官	法官閣下		
Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal	My Lord or Your Lordship; My Lady or Your Ladyship	The Honourable Mr. Justice - , PJ.	- PJ
終審法院常任法官	法官閣下	The Honourable Mrs. Justice - PJ * The Honourable Madam Justice - PJ #	
Non Permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal	My Lord or Your Lordship; My Lady or Your Ladyship	The Honourable Mr. Justice - , NPJ	- NPJ
終審法院非常任法官	法官閣下	The Honourable Mrs. Justice - NPJ * The Honourable Madam Justice - NPJ #	
Chief Judge of the High Court	My Lord or Your Lordship; My Lady or Your Ladyship	The Honourable Mr. Justice -	CJHC
高等法院首席法官	法官閣下	The Honourable Mrs. Justice - * The Honourable Madam Justice - #	
Justice of Appeal of the High Court	My Lord or Your Lordship; My Lady or Your Ladyship	The Honourable Mr. Justice -	- VP - JA
高等法院上訴法庭法官	法官閣下	The Honourable Mrs. Justice - * The Honourable Madam Justice - #	

Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court	My Lord or Your Lordship; My Lady or Your Ladyship	The Honourable Mr. Justice -	- J
高等法院原訟法庭法官	法官閣下	The Honourable Mrs. Justice - * The Honourable Madam Justice - #	
Recorder	My Lord or Your Lordship; My Lady or Your Ladyship	Mr / Mrs / Madam Recorder -	Recorder -
高等法院原訟法庭特委法官	法官閣下		
Deputy Judge of Court of First Instance of the High Court	My Lord or Your Lordship; My Lady or Your Ladyship	Deputy High Court Judge -	- DHCJ
高等法院原訟法庭暫委法官	法官閣下		
Registrar, Court of Final Appeal	Mr. Registrar or Sir or Madam	Mr / Mrs / Madam Registrar	
終審法院司法常務官	法官閣下		
Registrar, High Court	Mr. Registrar or Sir or Madam	Mr / Mrs / Madam Registrar	
高等法院司法常務官	法官閣下		
Deputy Registrar, High Court and Masters	Master or Sir or Madam	Deputy Registrar - , Master -	
高等法院副司法常務官, 聆案官	法官閣下		
Chief District Judge	Your Honour	His / Her Honour Judge -	CDJ
首席區域法院法官	法官閣下		
Principal Family Court Judge		His / Her Honour Judge -	Judge -
區域法院主任家事法庭法官	法官閣下		
District Judge		His / Her Honour Judge -	Judge -
區域法院法官	法官閣下		

Deputy District Judge		Deputy District Judge -	
區域法院暫委法官	法官閣下		
Registrar, District Court		Mr / Mrs / Madam Registrar	
區域法院司法常務官	法官閣下		
Deputy Registrar, District Court and Masters	Master or Sir or Madam	Deputy Registrar - , Master -	
區域法院副司法常務官, 聆案官	法官閣下		
Principal Presiding Officers, Principal Adjudicator	Sir or Madam	Mr / Miss / Ms / Mrs -	PPO PA
主任審裁官	法官閣下		
Presiding Officers and Adjudicators of Tribunals		Mr / Miss / Ms / Mrs -	
審裁官	法官閣下		
Coroner			
死因裁判官	法官閣下		
Member, Lands Tribunal		Member -	
土地審裁處成員	審裁處成員		
Chief Magistrate		Mr / Miss / Ms / Mrs -	CM
總裁判官	法官閣下		
Principal Magistrate		Mr / Miss / Ms / Mrs -	PM
主任裁判官			
Magistrate		Mr / Miss / Ms / Mrs -	
裁判官			
Special magistrate		Mr / Miss / Ms / Mrs -	
特委裁判官			

See the list of current judicial officers [here](#).

Return to **Table of Contents**

FAMILY COURT FORMS

Introduction to Family Court Forms

Litigants in family proceedings will often be required to use specific forms to begin proceedings and to make applications to the courts. Some forms are required by statute (Ordinances and Regulations) or the rules of court (e.g. the Rules of the High Court) or by the general practice directions made by the courts (see [Family Statutes & Practice Directions](#)). Some forms are known as ‘pleadings’, formal statements of a party’s case or the nature of their application or opposition or position on an application to the court. Other forms allow parties to submit evidence (e.g. affidavits and affirmations) to the court in relation to a particular case or application. The process of giving forms into the courts is known as “filing”, and the process of giving forms to other parties is known as “service”. There are particular rules for how forms should be filed and served, depending upon the form or whether there are applicable court orders or directions. For the rules on filing and service of divorce petitions see the [Matrimonial Causes Rules](#). All court forms may affect a party’s rights or liabilities and legal advice should be sought (if available) before filing forms with the court.

Case Type Acronyms

When filling out a form, it is important to first know which is the appropriate court and what category of proceedings are involved. Each court form is marked with the ‘cause number’ (or ‘case number’) assigned to the particular court proceeding to which it relates. The cause number is prefixed by a ‘case type acronym’. The case types that are relevant in family cases are divided according to the following categories:

Acronym	Case Type
FACV	Civil Appeals (before the Court of Final Appeal)
CACV	Civil Appeals (before the Court of Appeal)
HCMC	High Court Matrimonial Proceedings (Matrimonial Causes) (before the Court of First Instance)
FCMC	Family Court Matrimonial Proceedings (Matrimonial Causes)
FCDJ	Family Court Divorce Jurisdiction (only for older cases)
FCJA	Family Court Joint Application (for divorce)
CAMP	Miscellaneous Proceedings (before the Court of Appeal)
HCMP	Miscellaneous Proceedings (before the Court of First Instance)
FCMP	Miscellaneous Proceedings (before the Family Court)
HCAD	High Court Adoption Application
FCAD	Family Court Adoption Application
FCRE	Reciprocal Enforcement Proceedings

List of Court Forms

Below is a table of the most relevant forms by subject matter, sets out the relevant rule requiring the form's use, and provides the relevant hyperlink to the form. A list of acronyms is also provided.

Acronym	Ordinance / Rules
AO	Adoption Ordinance (Cap. 290)
AR	Adoption Rules (Cap. 290A)
CACO	Child Abduction and Custody Ordinance (Cap. 512)
CAR	Convention Adoption Rules (Cap. 290D)
DCO	District Court Ordinance (Cap. 336)
DCRVO	Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Ordinance (Cap. 189)
DCRVR	Domestic and Cohabitation Relationships Violence Rules (Cap. 189A)
GMO	Guardianship of Minors Ordinance (Cap. 13)
HCO	High Court Ordinance (Cap. 4)
HRTO	Human Reproductive Technology Ordinance (Cap.561)
I(PFD)O	Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Ordinance (Cap. 481)
LO	Legitimacy Ordinance (Cap. 184)
MCO	Matrimonial Causes Ordinance (Cap. 179)
MCR	Matrimonial Causes Rules (Cap. 179A)
MO	Marriage Ordinance (Cap. 181)
MO(RE)O	Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal Enforcement) Ordinance (Cap. 188)
MO(RE)R	Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal Enforcement) Rules (Cap. 188A)
MO(RE)Or	Maintenance Orders (Reciprocal Enforcement) (Designation of Reciprocating Countries) Order (Cap. 188B)
MJ(RRE)O	Mainland Judgments in Matrimonial and Family Cases (Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement) Ordinance (Cap. 639)
MJ(RRE)R	Mainland Judgments in Matrimonial and Family Cases (Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement) Rules (Cap. 639A)
MPPO	Matrimonial Proceedings and Property Ordinance (Cap. 192)
MPSO	Married Persons Status Ordinance (Cap. 182)
MRO	Marriage Reform Ordinance (Cap. 178)
PCO	Parent and Child Ordinance (Cap. 429)
PD / PDs	Practice Direction(s)
RDC	Rules of the District Court (Cap. 336H)
RHC	Rules of the High Court (Cap. 4A)
SMOO	Separation and Maintenance Order Ordinance (Cap. 16)

Topic	Applicable Rules in Hong Kong	Mode to Start	Statutory Forms
A. CHILDREN			
Abduction	CACO, section 12 – RHC Order 121, rule 2	Originating summons	RHC Appendix A – Form 10
Adoption	AO section 4 – Application for an Adoption Order, Rule 5, AR	Originating summons	AO, Schedule 1 – Form 2
	AO – Part 5 – Convention Adoption PD 15.13	Originating summons	AO, Schedule 1 – Form C2
Children’s Dispute Resolution			
	Notice of Children’s Appointment – PD 15.13(6)		Form I
	Children’s Form – designed to assist all interested parties and the Court to determine the best arrangements for the children – PD 15.13(3)		Form J
	Notice of Children’s Dispute Resolution Appointment – PD 15.13(14)		Form K
Guardianship of Minors	GMO – Part H, PD 15.12	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
Wardship Proceedings	Section 26 – Wardship Proceedings, Order 90, rule 3(1) , RHC	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
Custody and Financial Provision	SMOO Section 5 – Application for order regarding applicant no longer bound to cohabit, custody of child, financial provision etc., Order 89(1), RDC or Order 89(1), RHC	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
B. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE			
	DCRVO – Rule 3, DCRVR applies, RHC, and PD 15.12	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10

C. DIVORCE AND MARRIAGE			
Petition for Divorce	(all forms in the Appendix to MCR)		MCR – Form 2 also see Judiciary Family Court Forms
	Petition (2 years' separation)		Form 2 – 2 years' separation
	Petition (<i>Adultery</i>)		Form 2 – Adultery
	Petition (<i>Behaviour</i>)		Form 2 – Behaviour
	Petition (<i>Consent 1 year</i>)		Form 2 – Consent 1 year
	Petition (<i>Desertion</i>)		Form 2 – Desertion
	Statement as to the arrangement for children (if applicable)		Form 2B
	Notice of Proceedings		Form 3
	Acknowledgement of Service (case number and name of parties only)		Form 4
	Joint Application		Form 2C
	Joint application statement as to the arrangement for children (if applicable)		Form 2D
	Notice of Application for Decree Nisi to be Made Absolute (Petition)		Form 5
	Notice of Application for Decree Nisi to be Made Absolute (Joint Application)		Form 5A
	MCO Section 12 – Leave to petition within 1 year of marriage, Rule 5(1), MCR	Originating application	MCR – Appendix Form 1
	MCO Section 18B(c) – Application to consider agreement in contemplation of divorce or judicial separation, Rule 6(3)(a), MCR	Originating application	No statutory form
	MCO Section 10A –	Petition	MCR – Appendix Form 2

	Commencement of a matrimonial cause other than a joint application, Rule 9(1)(a), MCR		
	Commencement of a matrimonial cause which is a joint application, Rule 9(1)(b), MCR	Originating application	MCR – Appendix Form 2C
	MCO Part 9 Declaration for validity of an overseas divorce or legal separation (No specific rules in MCR)	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
Reconciliation	PD 15.3 – certificate of possibility for reconciliation, Rule 12(3), MCR		MCR – Appendix Form 3 (Form 2A)
Marriage of Persons over 16 and below 21	MO Section 18A – Seeking consent to marriage of persons of and over 16 but under 21 years of age	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
Customary Marriage	MRO Section 9 – Application that a customary/validated marriage subsists	Originating application	Appendix D – Form No.3 of the RDC
D. FINANCIAL			
Financial Dispute Resolution	All forms are attached to PD 15.11		
	Notice of intention to proceed with an Application for ancillary relief, PD 15.11(1.a)		Form A
	Financial protection for respondent in certain cases, Section 17A, MCO and Rule 56B, MCR , PD 15.11(1.b)		Form B (also known as Form 8A)
	Notice of First Appointment, PD 15.11 (1.c)		Form C

	Notice of Financial Dispute Resolution Appointment, PD 15.11(8)		Form D
	Financial Statements, PD 15.11(2)		Form E
	Notice of allegation in proceedings for ancillary relief (<i>interveners</i>), Sections 6A(5) and 17, MPPO		Form F
Inheritance	I(PFD)O – Inheritance, Part H, PD 15.12	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
Maintenance	MO(RE)R Part H, PD 15.12	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
	Application to make maintenance pending suit (“MPS”) a final order – notice of Request for Periodical Payments Order at Same Rate as Order for Maintenance Pending Suit, Section 15, MPPO , (<i>N.B. for the procedure by which an application to set aside a consent order should be made see PDSL 10.3</i>)	Originating application	MCR – Appendix Form 10 or 11
	MPPO Section 8 – Wilful Neglect to Maintain, Rule 98(1), MCR	Originating application	MCR – Appendix Form 14 and Form 15
	MPPO Section 15 – Alteration of Maintenance Agreement <i>during lifetime of parties</i> , Rule 100, MCR	Originating application	MCR – Appendix Form 16
	MPPO Section 16 – Alteration of Maintenance Agreement <i>after the death of one of the parties</i> , Rule 101, MCR	Originating summons	MCR – Appendix Form 17
Financial Relief	MPPO Part IIA Financial Relief in Hong Kong After Divorce, etc Outside Hong Kong		

	MPPO Section 29AC – Leave to apply for financial relief, Rule 103A(1) , MCR	Ex-parte originating summons	MCR – Appendix Form 27
	MPPO Section 29AB – Application for financial relief, Rule 103B(1) , MCR	Originating summons	MCR – Appendix Form 28
	MPPO Section 29AK – Application to prevent transactions intended to defeat prospective applications for financial relief, Rule 103D , MCR	Originating summons	MCR – Appendix Form 30
Title or Possession of Property	MPSO Section 6 – Application to determine any question between husband and wife as to the title to or possession of property, Order 89, RDC / RHC and PD 15.12	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
E. MEDIATION			
Family Mediation	See generally PD15.10		
	Petitioner's/Applicant's Certificate as to Family Mediation (<i>requirement of</i> PD15.10(2.1.1)), PD 15.10(2.1.2)		Appendix 1 – Petitioner's/Applicant's Certificate as to Family Mediation
	Respondent's Certificate as to Family Mediation, PD 15.10(2.1.3)		Appendix 2 – Respondent's Certificate as to Family Mediation
	Legally <i>represented</i> applicants in joint applications certificate (PD 15.10 (2.3.2)), Section 11B , MCO and PD 15.10(2.3)		Appendix 3 – Joint Applicants' Certificate as to Family Mediation
	Legally <i>unrepresented</i> applicants in joint applications certificate (PD 15.10 (2.4.1)), Section		Appendix 3 – Joint Applicants' Certificate as to Family Mediation

	11B, MCO and PD 15.10(2.4)		
	Intervening Party / Other Respondent certificate (PD 15.10(2.5.1)), PD 15.10(2.5)		Appendix 4 - Other Respondent's/Intervening Party's Certificate as to Family Mediation
	Referral to Family Mediation after litigation commenced, PD 15.10(3)		Appendix 5 – Application for Family Mediation
F. PARENTAGE AND LEGITIMACY			
Legitimacy	LO (<i>But note MCO Section 49– Declaration of Legitimacy</i>), Part H, PD 15.12 Rule 124, MCR	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10 -----
		Petition	Appendix Forms – Form 3 Appendix Forms – Form 4
Parentage Declarations	PCO – Section 6 – Declarations of parentage, legitimacy or legitimation	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
	PCO – Section 6(1) – Application for declaration of parentage should adopt the content of the English Practice Form FL424 under section 55A of Family Law Act 1986 (UK) (<i>N.B. see Re A (Parent and Child: Declaration) [2008] 4 HKLRD 526</i>)	Application	Declaration of Parentage Form FL424 <i>Also see Form C63 - Application for Declaration of Parentage</i>
Parental Orders and Scientific Tests Determining Parentage	PCO – Section 12 – Application for parental orders in favour of gamete donors	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10
	PCO – Section 13 – Application for direction for use of scientific tests in determining parentage, following English Practice (<i>see Re P (Parentage: Blood Tests) [2010] 4 HKLRD 497, [2010] HKCFI 673</i>)	Originating summons Application	Appendix A – Form 10 Form 1 of Sch.1 of the English Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) Regulations 1971 (N.B. Form 1 in Schedule 1 was

			amended by S.I. 2001/773 , 2008/972 and 2014/879)
	HRTO – Section 35(3) and (4) – Application for direction on questions as to whether a person is or is not the parent of a child	Application	No statutory form
G. TRIAL			
Special Procedure	Practice Direction 15.4(1) – Affidavit in Support for an application for directions for trial, MCR, PD 15.4		MCR – Appendix Form 21
Bundle	Notice to Dispense with Paginated Bundle, PD 15.11(4A)		Form G
Costs	Estimate of costs incurred up to and including current hearing, PD.9 , PD 15.11(10) , PD 15.13(23)		Forms H (4 different Forms H: Form H1 (for defended matrimonial causes and interlocutory applications relating to the main suit), Form H2 (for children proceedings) Form H3 (for costs up to the FDR) Form H4 (for costs after the FDR up to and including trial))
Ancillary Relief Trial	Ancillary Relief Checklist – to be lodged with the court by the parties to the proceedings (case management)		Ancillary Relief Checklist
Preliminary Issue	Preliminary Issue Checklist		Preliminary Issue Checklist
Foreign Proceedings Relief	HCO Sections 21M and 21N – Interim relief in aid of foreign proceedings, Order 29, rule 8A, RHC	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10

H. RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT			
Reciprocal enforcement of maintenance orders from certain jurisdictions	<p>MO(RE)O Section 7 - Registration in Hong Kong of maintenance order made in reciprocating country</p> <p>Reciprocating country as defined in MO(RE)Or</p>	Certified copy of an order received by the Registrar from the Chief Executive	No statutory form Other implementing rules see MO(RE)R
	<p>MO(RE)O Section 5 - Power of District Court to make provisional order against person residing in reciprocating country</p>	Summons	No statutory form
Reciprocal enforcement of Mainland family and matrimonial judgment	<p>MJ(RRE)O Section 10 – Registration of specified orders in a Mainland Judgment</p> <p>Specified Orders in a Mainland Judgment as defined in Sch 2 of MJ(RRE)O</p> <p>Apply to District Court: PDSL 10.5(2), subject to the power of transfer to CFI of High Court</p>	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10 Supporting affidavit containing a draft order in the prescribed Form 1 ; Notice to be filed in the prescribed Form 3
	<p>MJ(RRE)O Section 15 – Application for setting aside registration orders</p>	Summons	With supporting affidavit
	<p>MJ(RRE)O Section 29 – Recognition of a Mainland Divorce Certificate</p> <p>Apply to District Court: PDSL 10.5(3)</p>	Originating summons	Appendix A – Form 10 Supporting affidavit containing a draft order in the prescribed Form 2 ; Notice to be filed in the prescribed Form 4
	<p>MJ(RRE)O Section 32 – Application for setting aside recognition orders</p>	Summons	With supporting affidavit

COURT CALENDAR

2023

2024

January						February						March						January						February						March																										
M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	M	T	W	T	F	S									
					01		01	02	03	04	05		01	02	03	04	05	01	02	03	04	05	06	07		01	02	03	04		05	06	07	08	09	10 11		01	02	03	04		04	05	06	07	08	09	10							
02	03	04	05	06	07	08	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	12 13	14	15	16	17	18	04	05	06	07	08	09	10																
09	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	11	12	13	14	15	16	17															
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29				18	19	20	21	22	23	24															
23 24 25	26	27	28	29			27	28						27	28	29	30	31			29	30	31												25	26	27	28	29 30	31		15	16	17	18	19	20	21								
30	31																											26	27	28	29				18	19	20	21	22	23	24															

Court business hours (Magistracy, Family Court, High Court):

Monday to Friday 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Courts are closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays (highlighted in bold) (see also [Government Public Holidays](#)).

The court cause list (i.e. schedule of hearings) can be viewed at the [Judiciary website](#).

Alternatively, hearings for a particular case can be searched via the [e-Hearing Date Enquiry](#).

Local School Calendar

See the [Education Bureau's 'model' calendar and other guidelines](#).

International School Calendars

[American International School](#)

[Australian International School](#)

[Canadian International School](#)

[Carmel School Association](#)

[Chinese International Schools](#)

[Delia School of Canada](#)

[Discovery Bay International School](#)

[English Schools Foundation](#)

[French International School](#)

[German Swiss International School](#)

[Harrow International School](#)

[Hong Kong International School](#)

[International Christian School](#)

[Japanese International School](#)

[Kellett School](#)

[Li Po Chun United World College](#)

[YMCA of Hong Kong Christian College](#)

Hong Kong Family Court Tables (Duxbury Etc) is the first reference work to be published freely by leading family lawyers for the public to provide essential information and legal materials for those involved in legal disputes. It is a public interest project aimed at increasing access to justice. Published in English and Chinese, it is unique.

It introduces a number of entirely new materials to Hong Kong: **Duxbury Tables** (allowing easier calculation of lump sum payments, tailored for Hong Kong's own economic conditions), a **Family Law Glossary** (explaining the sometimes archaic lexicon of the family courts), summaries of the **essential concepts** (introducing the fundamental structure of each of the main areas of family law: divorce, children and money), a list of **essential statutes, leading cases** and much more. It covers the gamut of family law: public and private family law disputes, children, domestic violence, divorce, ancillary relief, and marriage.

Wherever possible, the online edition (www.duxburyetc.hk) provides freely available Internet-based resources hyperlinked in the text (including case law and statutes). New editions are published annually.