



Jenny Barker

Family dog mediator and behaviour consultant

What is family dog mediation?

Family dog mediation is a new way of looking at dogs, their families and any behavioural issues that arise. It looks beyond dog training and explores the root cause of any issues by exploring the dogs specific **L**earning history, **E**nvironment, **G**enetics and individual **S**elf.

Looking at this L.E.G.S model of behaviour enables us to take a more dog-centred, and empathetic approach. It enables us to stop pathologising the dog and look more critically at what a dog IS, and why they may be struggling to adapt to the human-centred world they find themselves in.

It is only in the past 100 years that dogs have begun to live as they do today, and the contrast in their new way of life vs their past way of life has changed so dramatically in this time that genetically they have not had much time to adapt. This can bring problems for our dogs, and cause a lot of distress and damage for all involved.

By looking at the dog as an individual, we can begin to explore why your dog is doing what they're doing, how we can help them cope better and even begin to thrive in their modern lifestyle by better meeting their needs and developing a mutually respectful and compassionate relationship with them. It allows us to accept our dogs for who they are, and find safe ways that we can live with them in peace and harmony.



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