Co-parent Friendly Vocabulary

DO SAY	DON'T SAY
Your other home, House with you	Visit
Both raising the children	Custody, Possession
The child's other parent	Your "Ex"
Children growing up in two homes	Children "from broken homes" or "of divorce"
Your family	Your "divided" family
Co-parenting Plan	Custody Arrangement
Periods of Responsibility	Periods of Possession
Time with mom/dad	Visitation
What is the schedule? *or* What do you want the schedule to be?	Who does the child live with? Who do you want the child to live with?
"In your care" *or* "period of responsibility"	"During your possession"
"Our child" phrasing	"My child" phrasing

Try your best to remove the words "primary," "possession," and "visitation" from your vocabulary when you are trying to empower clients to make co-parenting plans. These outmoded terms come from the adversarial process and, even there, they are destructive to healthy parenting relationships.

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