



Elisabeth Wickham

Call: 2012

Elisabeth is a junior barrister who brings a wealth of life and business experience from outside the field of law to her practice. Before converting to law, she developed a successful career in the City, culminating in her role as Head of Risk Management in the private client group of a global insurer, and started a family.

Her diverse practice encompasses financial remedy and public and private children work. Elisabeth is adept at quickly establishing trust with clients from all walks of life. She brings a characteristic warmth and approachability to her work, supporting clients who are often pressured or distressed and helping them to achieve the best possible legal outcomes.

Since her law conversion, Elisabeth has lectured in law at BPP Law School. Having grown up and been educated in The Netherlands, Elisabeth is bi-lingual. In addition, she is fluent in German and speaks French to a high standard.

Elisabeth has experience of representing clients in proceedings relating to all areas of family law. She has conducted cases at both County Court and High Court level.

Public Law Children

Elisabeth enjoys representing a diverse range of clients in public law matters. She is experienced in representing parents, local authorities and children's guardians and has acted for children directly and for the Official Solicitor. Elisabeth's public law practice encompasses cases involving parents with mental-health or learning difficulties, teenage parents, children beyond parental control, domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, neglect, physical or sexual abuse, non-accidental injury and fabricated or induced illness.

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Notable Public Law Children cases

- **Wokingham Borough Council v The Mother & Ors [2023] EWFC 196**
Fact-finding in care proceedings concerning allegations that parents assaulted children.
- **Oxfordshire County Council v M & Ors [2023] EWFC 135**
Elisabeth represented A, a 10 month-old child, acting through their Children's Guardian, in this final hearing of application for care and placement orders.

Private Law Children

Elisabeth has represented clients in a wide range of matters under the Children Act 1989 including all applications under section 8, Special Guardianship Order applications and internal and international relocation applications. She has experience of representing all parties involved in such applications, including Rule 16.4 Guardians, and she is particularly interested in cases involving parental alienation, implacable hostility, emotional, sexual or physical abuse, and where Children's Services are involved with the family.

International Children Law

Elisabeth welcomes instructions in International Children Law cases.

Family Finance

Elisabeth has experience of representing and advising clients in all aspects of financial remedy proceedings from First Appointment through to Financial Dispute Resolution and up to contested Final Hearings. She also represents parties in applications under Schedule 1 and TOLATA 1996 and is experienced in dealing with enforcement proceedings. Elisabeth has a particular interest in cases involving assets that are asserted to be non-matrimonial property, having written one of her Master's degree dissertations on the subject.

Memberships

- Family Law Bar Association
- The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple

Education

- LLM in Professional Legal Practice (Distinction), BPP Law School
- Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding), BPP Law School
- Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction), BPP Law School
- Advanced Diploma in Insurance (Distinction) – Chartered Institute of Insurance
- MA in History of Art – Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London
- BA Hons in Fine & Decorative Arts (First Class), Sotheby's Institute, London

Prizes

- Certificate of Honour for outstanding performance on the Bar Professional Training Course, Middle Temple

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