



Sara Granshaw

Call: 1991

Sara has specialised in Family Law since 1991 when she was called to the Bar and became a member of Harcourt Chambers. She is a highly skilled advocate who meticulously prepares all her cases. Sara's approachable, but firm manner enables her to seek a good outcome for her client often by negotiation and in contested hearings she is a forceful and persuasive advocate. Particularly sought after for her strategic thinking and expertise in cross-examination, Sara remains sensitive to the needs of vulnerable clients and witnesses.

Sara lectures on courses for social workers across Berkshire and Oxfordshire and has delivered seminars on public and private children law.

Public Law Children

Sara is regularly instructed in complex care proceedings involving the most serious allegations of abuse (including child fatalities or where a parent has killed the other parent); vulnerable parents and children with significant mental health issues, autistic spectrum disorders and learning disabilities; and children with multiple injuries and life-limiting and rare conditions. She has been instructed in a number of cases involving allegations of FII and diagnoses of functional neurological disorders.

Known for her forensic attention to detail, Sara is highly experienced in absorbing and analysing complex medical evidence and extensive factual evidence. Her practice also encompasses deprivation of liberty applications and cases featuring domestic violence, emotional abuse and neglect. She is instructed by local authorities, parents and Children's Guardians at all levels of Court up to and including the Court of Appeal.

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Notable Public Law Children cases

- **W (A Child: Emotional Harm), Re [2020] EWFC B19**
- **Re C (Children: Fact Find Medical Presentation) (Rev 1) [2020] EWFC**
- **CD (A Child: Re Hearing of Fact-Finding) [2018] EWHC 2670 (Fam)**
- **LA v X & Ors (Fact Finding Death & Physical Harm) [2018] EWHC 1116 (Fam)**

Private Law Children

Sara undertakes all types of private law children work; having developed considerable experience of cases where living arrangements and contact are in dispute and prohibited steps and specific issue orders are sought. With the increasing importance courts place on the “voice of the child”, in private law disputes Sara is always mindful of the need for a child-focussed approach while presenting her client’s case robustly, yet persuasively.

Memberships

- Family Law Bar Association
- Association of Lawyers for Children
- Resolution
- Court of Protection Practitioners Association
- Oxford Medico-Legal Society

Education

- MA in Jurisprudence, Oxford University

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