

Gemma Farrington

Call 1994

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Introduction

Gemma specialises in complex care and private law proceedings. In respect of care proceedings, she is acknowledged as a specialist in complex cases such as Non Accidental Injury, Sexual Abuse, Fabricated and Induced Illness and cases involving other serious allegations. She acts for parents, children, relatives, Special Guardians and adopters. In respect of private law work, she has been acknowledged as being skilled in cases involving complex fact finding hearings or allegations of parental alienation. She acts for parents and is also regularly instructed by Guardians pursuant to rule 16.4 FPR 2010.

Gemma has acted in Court of Protection cases and has a real interest in this area of law which she wishes to develop and expand in the future.

Recent legal directories have described Gemma as follows:

[Chambers and Partners 2021](#): "Farrington is an outstanding advocate."

Legal 500 2017: "*Leading Junior. A specialist in care proceedings*"

Chambers & Partners 2018: Band 2: "*She has a methodical and thorough approach. She has an excellent manner with clients, and is very compassionate and caring.*"

Legal 500 2016: "*A Leading Junior ranked tier 1. Very good with clients and experienced in complex cases.*"

Chambers & Partners 2017: "*She has a methodical and thorough approach. Excellent in cross examination.*"

Legal 500 2015: "*A Leading Junior. A highly intelligent and analytical practitioner, who is liked by clients and Judges.*"

Chambers & Partners 2016: Band 3: "*She is intelligent, tenacious and personable. She has got all the tools at her disposal and she is very level headed. She is an excellent, intelligent lawyer. She is also very conscientious and always on top of what she is doing.*"

Legal 500 2014: *“A highly intelligent and analytical practitioner who is liked by clients and judges.”*

Chambers & Partners 2015: *“Respected for her involvement in both public and private law children matters, earning particular praise for her expertise in care proceedings. She is also noted for her handling of complex, multi-party matters and non-accidental injury cases with conflicting expert evidence. Strengths: Gemma has a wide range of abilities and expertise in handling clients across the board. She is particularly sensitive to the difficulties of representing young people. She is very patient and decisive, establishing a good rapport very quickly with vulnerable clients.”*



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Recent cases

Gemma is currently instructed in a number of complex care cases and has experience of leading more junior counsel in complex care cases and of being led herself by Queens counsel.

Reported cases

- W- J (Children) [2015] EWCA Civ 788
- Re K (Care Proceedings: fact finding) [2011] 2FLR 199
- H (Children) (Sexual abuse: fact finding) [2011] All ER (D) 69 (May)
- LM (By her Guardian) v Medway Council, RM & YM [2007] EWCA Civ 9 [2007] 1 FLR 1698 CA

Publications

Gemma has co – authored with Simon Johnson, Barrister, a book entitled *“Assessment of Parents in Care Proceedings”* published in March 2014 by Jordans Publishing Limited.

Qualifications

- MA (Cantab) (English), Robinson College, Cambridge (1990)
- CPE Law - University of Westminster, London (1993)
- Bar Finals - Inns of Court School of Law, London (1994)

Interests

Gemma enjoys going to the theatre, listening to music, spending time with her family and pets and the occasional run.