

Siân Smith

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Introduction

Siân is a family practitioner specialising in financial and children matters.

Family finances

Siân has extensive experience in matrimonial proceedings and is often instructed in cases involving intervening third party interests and hidden assets where her meticulous and forensic approach is of particular benefit. Siân focuses on providing considered, clear and practical advice from the outset. She is effective in achieving results through negotiation and in court. Siân represents unmarried couples in property disputes under the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996, an area in which she has a particular academic interest and has given many CPD accredited lectures. She is also instructed in applications for financial provision under Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989 and in Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975 claims.

Children

Siân is an experienced practitioner and is frequently instructed in public law children cases involving non-accidental injury, sexual abuse, factitious illness, neglect, substance misuse and emotional abuse. She acts on behalf of local authorities, parents, family members, guardians and competent children at all stages of proceedings. Siân is sensitive to the needs of vulnerable clients, particularly those with mental health diagnoses or learning difficulties. She undertakes the full range of private law children matters often representing parents and guardians in cases involving complex factual issues and allegations of sexual or physical abuse. Siân regularly gives CPD accredited seminars and bespoke in-house training in all her practice areas. Siân accepts instructions directly from members of the public under the direct public access scheme. Siân is happy to undertake work on a pro bono basis in appropriate cases.

Professional memberships

- FLBA
- Western Circuit

Selected cases

- Y (A Child) (S.38(6) Assessment) [2018] EWCA Civ 992

Education

- University of Leicester
- LLB (International)
- Inns of Court School of Law
- Bar Vocational Course

Other information

- Siân is a keen Welsh rugby fan and when not working enjoys travelling to indulge her passions for surfing, diving and skiing.