Claire Williams

Call: 2004

"The advice Claire gives is sound and insightful and her cross-examination is excellent."

Chambers UK 2026

clerks@30parkplace.co.uk +44 (0)2920 398421

Claire Williams is a very experienced family law practitioner. She is ranked as a Band 1 Junior (Family: Children) with Chambers UK and as a Leading Junior (Family: Children and Domestic Abuse) in Legal 500. She has been ranked in Chambers UK Bar for over 10 years.

In the main, she is instructed by Local Authorities in all types of complex cases, including those involving serious allegations of physical and sexual abuse, FII and child death.

In addition, she has a wealth of experience of representing parents, interveners, guardians, foster carers and prospective adopters.

She has experience of dealing with cases involving international elements including Hague Convention and placement of children in non-Hague Convention countries.

She has undertaken cases in the High Court and the Court of Appeal and regularly appears in cases where other parties are represented by King's Counsel.

Claire is a fluent Welsh speaker, and is able to conduct hearings and conferences through the medium of Welsh.

Expertise

Family & Childcare

Claire acts in complex public law proceedings involving serious allegations of abuse, injury and neglect. She is instructed regularly by local authorities, guardians and parents, including in High Court and Court of Appeal matters. Her calm, practical approach is trusted in sensitive cases involving vulnerable children and multiple parties. She is a methodical, robust and persuasive advocate and she is able to cross-examine lay parties, professionals and experts effectively.

30 Park Place

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Appointments

- Recorder (2022)
- Tribunal Judge (Mental Health Tribunal) (2022)

Education

- Bar Vocational Course
- LLB, Cardiff University
- Ysgol Gyfyn y Strade, Llanelli

Languages

- Welsh (fluent)

Notable and reported cases

- Re P-S (Children) [2013] EWCA Civ 223 – Led junior in a case on whether a competent child has the right to give evidence in relation to welfare issues concerning himself.
- Re L-W [2019] EWCA Civ 159 – Junior for the Local Authority in a case concerning the components of a failure to protect finding. The Court of Appeal said the following about Claire: "Finally, I would like to express the Court's gratitude to Ms Williams who represented the Local Authority. Ms Williams, having understandably anticipated responding to the appeal, found herself, at the Court's request, addressing the Court first. Ms Williams was of immeasurable assistance to the Court in helping us to understand much of the chronology which was not obvious from the papers. Further, as we went through each of the factors relied upon by the judge, Ms Williams made appropriate concessions whilst continuing to put the Local Authority's case. This professional and realistic approach allowed the Court to focus on what was, in reality, the only live issue, namely; was GL's history of violence sufficient to lead to a finding of failure to protect upon the mother's part?"

Privacy Policy

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