

Harriet Edmondson

Call: 1997

"A highly competent and consistent advocate."

Chambers UK 2018



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Harriet Edmondson is a specialist family law barrister, with a particular focus on public law children proceedings. She acts for local authorities, parents, children and Children's Guardians at all levels, including the High Court and Court of Appeal.

Harriet is regularly instructed in complex and sensitive care cases involving non-accidental injury, sexual abuse, chronic neglect and, in the most serious instances, the death of a child. She also has significant experience in Deprivation of Liberty proceedings under the inherent jurisdiction, as well as private law children matters, particularly where there are serious welfare concerns or vulnerable parties involved.

Known for having a calm and empathetic approach, Harriet is frequently instructed in cases involving vulnerable clients, including those with learning disabilities and mental health conditions. She is valued for her ability to build trust quickly and to provide clear, realistic advice, even in highly emotional or challenging circumstances.

Her advocacy is thoughtful and measured, and she is often praised for her ability to handle difficult issues with sensitivity and clarity. Harriet's practice spans the full spectrum of family and child care work, and she is trusted across the board to manage complex, high-stakes proceedings with professionalism and care.

Expertise

Family & Childcare

Harriet specialises in public and private law children cases, including non-accidental injury, neglect, sexual abuse, and deprivation of liberty. She is regularly instructed at High Court level and is known for her empathetic, practical approach, in particular with vulnerable clients. She represents parents, children, local authorities, and guardians in complex and sensitive proceedings.

Appointments

- Deputy District Judge sitting on the Wales and Chester Circuit (Civil, Public and Private Law tickets) (2019)
- First Tier Tribunal Mental Health Tribunal Judge (England) (2018)
- Pupil Supervisor
- Chair of the Pupillage Committee in Chambers

Awards

- European Union Tempus Grant (1995): To fund work placement in European Law Firm in Poznan, Poland.

Education

- Inns of Court School of Law, London
- The University of Wales, Aberystwyth
- Howell's School, Llandaff

Memberships

- Family Law Bar Association

Notable and reported cases

- Newport City Council v GW, TW, RL, LW, RH and Children' Guardian [2006] EWHC 3671 (Fam)
- Re T (A Child) [2018] EWCA Civ 2136
- A Local Authority v M, F and the child [2024] EWFC 238 (B)
- Tortoise Media v A Local Authority in Wales & Ors [2024] EWFC 306 (B)

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