

# Sophie Keegan

Call: 2020



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Sophie Keegan accepts instructions across both family and criminal law and is building a strong practice in each.

She joined 30 Park Place in January 2022, following the successful completion of her pupillage, supervised by Catrin John (Family) and Eugene Egan (Crime).

In her criminal work, Sophie both prosecutes and defends in the Magistrates' and Crown Courts. She is regularly instructed in a wide range of matters, including drug offences, violence, and public order. She has acted for both the Prosecution and Defence in PTPHs through to trials and sentencing hearings. She also appears in civil applications in the Magistrates' Court, including Closure Orders and DVPOs.

Sophie has developed a growing family practice with a focus on public law children work. She acts for parents, children, and local authorities in care proceedings, including cases involving allegations of inflicted injuries and sexual abuse. She is experienced in representing vulnerable clients, including those without litigation capacity. Sophie also regularly appears in the Family Drug and Alcohol Court, and as well as frequently dealing with private children matters at all stages of proceedings.

She is known for being thoughtful, pragmatic, empathetic, and always attuned to the needs of her clients.

Originally from Bridgend, Sophie read Law and French at the University of Bristol, graduating with First Class Honours, and was awarded Outstanding on the Bar Course. She speaks French and has a keen interest in ballet, Pilates, and French culture and history.

## Expertise

### Crime

Sophie prosecutes and defends in the Magistrates' and Crown Courts, regularly acting in cases involving drug offences, violence, and public order. She has experience with jury trials, sentencing hearings, and civil applications such as DVPOs and Closure Orders. Her approach is thorough, balanced, and focused on the client's position.

## Family & Childcare

Sophie acts in both public and private law children cases, including being led in complex care proceedings involving non-accidental injuries. She represents parents, children, wider family members and local authorities at all stages. She has developed extensive experience of representing clients in cases in the Family Drug and Alcohol Court. Known for her empathy and pragmatism, she is trusted with sensitive cases. Sophie deals with all hearings, from initial or urgent hearings, to Fact Finding Hearings and Final Hearings.

## Appointments

- CPS Level 2 Prosecutor

## Awards

- Highest mark in the cohort on the BPTC, UWE (2020)
- Blackstone's Exhibition Award, Middle Temple
- Harmsworth Scholarship, Middle Temple
- University of Bristol Dean's Commendation Award for Academic Excellence (2016)

## Education

- Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding), University of the West of England (2020)
- LLB Law and French (First Class Honours), University of Bristol (2019)

## Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Family Law Bar Association
- The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple

## Publications

- [Summary on the law of jurisdiction in the Family Court and transfer of proceedings](#)