

Kate Fenwick

Call 2013

'A tenacious advocate with an eye for detail. Her ability to think on her feet is excellent and her knowledge of the law is prodigious.'

Legal 500

Kate is an experienced and busy family barrister. She recently returned to full-time practice at Trinity Chambers following a year gaining experience offshore in Bermuda. Kate specialises in complex and document-heavy family proceedings with an international element. She has particular expertise in the international relocation of children.

Kate assists Private Client and other multi-disciplinary wealth protection teams in stress-testing the resilience of wealth protection structures to divorce.

Kate was appointed as a Deputy District Judge in 2024, authorised to hear a broad range of civil and family cases, and became a Panel Member of the Bermuda Human Rights Tribunal in 2025. Her judicial insight and advocacy experience allow her to deliver pragmatic, outcome-focused advice in both litigation and negotiation.

Kate's offshore experience in commercial litigation – including directors' duties, breach of confidence and reinsurance disputes – enhances her ability to manage financial remedy cases where corporate and fiduciary issues intersect with family breakdown.

Kate is consistently recognised in Legal 500 and Chambers & Partners as a Leading Junior in family law, particularly for her detailed preparation, robust advocacy and client-focused approach. She is described as: *"A brilliant advocate... very good with clients, instils confidence and is a very sophisticated advocate"* (Chambers & Partners, 2025) and *"An exceptional junior...a tough negotiator and eloquent advocate"* (Legal 500, 2024).

Kate prides herself on her approachability and is sought-after for her pragmatic approach to solving problems despite the complexity of the proceedings.

EXPERTISE

Private Law Children

Kate's private law children practice focuses on fact-sensitive cases which involve the most serious of issues including domestic abuse, parental alienation and emotional harm, and sexual abuse. Kate also has a strong practice in complex international relocation cases involving both Hague and Non-Hague countries.

Kate handles the most challenging issues concerning children including:

- Alienating behaviours
- Domestic abuse and violence
- Coercive and controlling behaviour
- Allegations of serious sexual abuse of children
- Temporary and permanent removal of children from the jurisdiction



Expertise

Family - Finance & Property

Family - Public Law & Children

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

International & Offshore

Mediation

Kate is a keen advocate for all forms of Non-Court Dispute Resolution (NCDR) and pro-actively advises on the advantages of Private DRAs, Arbitrations and RTMs.

Financial Remedy

Kate has experience and expertise in a broad range of family financial disputes including:

- Disputed business assets and valuations
- Matrimonialisation of assets
- Imerman and illegally-obtained evidence
- Financial abuse and dissipation of assets
- Reviewable dispositions of matrimonial property
- Ante-nuptial agreements
- Offshore trusts and asset protection structures

Kate brings the weight of her offshore commercial litigation experience to her financial remedy practice. She is well-versed in issues of directors duties, breach of confidence claims and Bermuda trusts.

Kate is comfortable with complex commercial structures involving offshore elements and is able to effectively and incisively cross-examine experts charged with valuing closely-held private companies.

Public Law Children

Kate has extensive experience of representing children, parents and Local Authorities in the most complex public law cases. She is regularly instructed in cases involving serious non-accidental injury and as junior counsel in cases involving allegations of FII.

Kate is particularly sought after for cases involving allegations of serious sexual abuse of both adults and children – including historical allegations and grooming. Kate recently secured findings of serious sexual abuse perpetrated on a child who was non-verbal due to a genetic condition.

Kate has also acted in cases involving the highly sensitive issues of FGM and forced marriage.

Kate has a strong international arm to her practice and has been instructed in cases involving both Hague and non-Hague countries.

Cases of note:

Clerking team



Steven Preen
Lead Family Clerk
0191 232 1927



Ken McLafferty
Family & Immigration
Clerk
0191 245 9531



Paula McLure
Family Clerk
0191 245 9530



Erin Cumming
Family & Court of
Protection Clerk
0191 245 9590



Fiona Bullock
Direct Access Clerk
01642 247 569



Chris Gibbin
Criminal & Family Clerk
01642 247 569

- **Re NW (2023)** – Led by Charlotte Worsley KC for the children in a case concerning allegations of FII. The case involved multiple experts and over 10,000 pages of medical evidence.
- **Re SE (2023)** – Represented the Local Authority and secured findings of sexual abuse in respect of a disabled, non-verbal child.
- **Re ET (2022)** – Led by Charlotte Worsley KC for the Mother in a case concerning allegations of FII.
- **Re RC (2021)** – Led by Tina Cook KC for the complainant child in a case concerning allegations of inter-sibling sexual abuse, including penetration. All findings were secured.
- **Re RD** (Deprivation or Restriction of Liberty) [2018] EWFC 47
- **Re B-S** (Children) (2018); appeared solo in the Court of Appeal and successfully appealed the Court's earlier decision to refuse the Local Authority's application for Care and Placement Orders
- **Re O** (2020); successfully represented the Local Authority in the High Court in respect of an application for an FGM Protection Order and concurrent Care Proceedings.
- **Re C** (2020); represented the Local Authority during a 9-day finding of fact hearing involving malicious allegations of sexual abuse of the child made by each parent as against the other.

NCDR/Arbitration

Alongside her litigation practice, Kate is a committed advocate of Non-Court Dispute Resolution (NCDR).

Kate welcomes instructions to appear in the following:

- Private DRA
- Private FDR
- Arbitration: Children
- Arbitration: Financial Remedy
- RTM

During her time practising offshore, Kate was involved in the drafting and set-up of the Family Arbitration Scheme alongside other key stakeholders of CIArb (Bermuda). The scheme is being developed in Bermuda in partnership with CIArb and will be the first of its kind in Bermuda, providing a forum to arbitrate both financial remedy and private law children disputes.

Expert Instructions

During her time practising offshore, Kate was instructed as an expert on Bermuda family law in proceedings before the English courts, particularly in public and private law children cases involving the placement of children in Bermuda.

Kate remains available to accept instructions of this nature.

APPOINTMENTS

- Deputy District Judge (2024)
- Bermuda Human Rights Tribunal - Panel Member (2025)

MEMBERSHIPS

- North Eastern Circuit
- Family Law Bar Association
- Associate Member, Royal College of Paediatric and Child Health (RCPCH)
- The Honourable Society of Inner Temple

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & EDUCATION

- Public Access Qualified
- Financial Analysis and Valuation for Lawyers, Harvard Law School (2025)
- Registered Associate, Bermuda (2024-2025)
- BPTC, Bristol Institute of Legal Practice
- LLB (Hons), University of Exeter

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Kate is available to deliver CPD training to solicitors and clients across her specialist areas.



What Others Say

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"Kate is always well prepared and whilst she is extremely intelligent is also very much a kind and approachable advocate. She is always a pleasure to work alongside."

Family: Children and Domestic Abuse, Legal 500 2026

"a brilliant advocate. She is very good with clients, instils confidence, and is a very sophisticated advocate." "Kate is a fantastic advocate. She builds an immediate rapport with clients who feel supported, confident and reassured with her by their side." "She has a fantastic eye for detail and is always meticulously prepared. She is a robust and persuasive advocate who has the ability to put the clients at ease straight away"

Chambers & Partners 2025

"An exceptional junior. She is a tough negotiator and a very confident, eloquent advocate, who is very good with anxious or nervous clients"

Legal 500 2024

"A tenacious advocate with an eye for detail. Her ability to think on her feet is excellent and her knowledge of the law is prodigious."

Legal 500 2023

"Kate has the gift of putting clients and instructing solicitors at ease within minutes of meeting, building trust and confidence but maintaining a professional and forthright manner. Her cross-examination is compelling."

Legal 500 2022

"Kate has been outstanding in her paperwork, advocacy, and managing a very complex and difficult journey for this case to get it to a conclusion. The recent Appeal has been problematic ... but again her input, commitment and approach were faultless "

Solicitor Client