



Nicola Bowker

Call: 2012
Specialism: Family

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

Trinity Chambers
The Custom House
Quayside
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 3DE

Tel: 0191 232 1927
Fax: 0191 232 7975
DX: 61185 (Newcastle)

TEESSIDE

Trinity Chambers
Cleveland Business Centre
Watson Street
Middlesbrough
TS1 2RQ

Tel: 01642 247 569
Fax: 0191 232 7975
DX: 60537 (Middlesbrough)

www.trinitychambers.co.uk
info@trinitychambers.co.uk

Nicola Bowker

TEL 0191 232 1927

EMAIL n.bowker@trinitychambers.co.uk

A former tenant of a leading family law Chambers on the Western Circuit, Nicola practices in all areas of family law. She is frequently instructed in private law children proceedings and regularly represents parties in proceedings under Part IV of the Family Law Act 1996. Nicola also represents Local Authorities, parents and children at all stages of public law proceedings.

Nicola provides practical and pragmatic advice in all cases and prides herself on her down to earth and approachable manner with both lay and professional clients.

SPECIALISMS

Family

Private Law Children

Nicola is regularly instructed to appear at all stages on behalf of applicants and respondents, children's guardians and children with separate representation in private law proceedings. She has experience in dealing with cases concerning rape, sexual abuse (including of a minor), mental health, domestic abuse/violence, internal relocation and parental alienation (which include applications for changes of residency).

Nicola is experienced in dealing with internal relocation cases, acting for both those seeking to relocate and those seeking to prevent such a move. She has also acted in cases involving international relocation and jurisdictional issues.

Cases of Note:

- Re W (minors) [2017] EWFC 80 - Acted on behalf of the Mother in the Father's application to resume contact with his two children where the Court found there had been a history of domestic abuse.
- B v M – Instructed on behalf of the Father in a case concerning serious parental alienation of his two children by the Mother. The Court ordered a change of residency of the children to the Father's care.
- H v H – Appeared on behalf of the 14-year-old child separately represented in long-standing private law proceedings, with findings made of parental alienation against the Mother and changes of residency to and from the Father's care.
- S v M – Instructed on behalf of the Father accused of rape and serious sexual assault by the Mother. No findings were made against the Father following a multi-day fact finding hearing.
- C v M – Instructed on behalf of the Father accused of sexual assault of his son at a multi-day finding of fact hearing, with no findings subsequently made against him.

Public Law Children

Nicola frequently appears on behalf of Local Authorities, parents and children in public law proceedings. She is instructed at all stages of proceedings from interim hearings to multi-day final hearings. Nicola has experience of representing vulnerable adults, including those with severe learning disabilities and those assessed as needing the assistance of an intermediary.

Injunctions

Nicola routinely represents both applicants and respondents at all stages of injunctive relief proceedings under Part IV of the Family Law Act 1996.



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MEMBERSHIPS

- North Eastern Circuit
- Western Circuit
- The Honourable Society of Middle Temple

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & EDUCATION

- Public Access Qualified
- ADR Group Accredited Civil & Commercial Mediator
- Bar Professional Training Course, BPP Leeds
- LLB (Hons), University of Leeds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Nicola is a keen sportswoman, having previously represented Lincolnshire at hockey. She enjoys playing netball socially and is learning to play tennis.

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