

HANNAH GOMERSALL

Year called 2013

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OVERVIEW

Hannah specialises in children law and financial remedies. Described by solicitors as “warm, approachable and thorough” and having “excellent communication skills”, Hannah is known for her pragmatic and focused approach.

Hannah has particular expertise in international relocation cases and intractable contact disputes, including where a Guardian has been appointed. She regularly represents parents where there are allegations of serious domestic abuse, international abduction or forced marriage.

Hannah undertakes a wide variety of financial remedies work including where there are issues of jurisdiction and pension provision. She has also acted in financial remedy appeals, enforcement proceedings and applications under Schedule 1 Children Act 1989.

Hannah regularly handles complex care proceedings including where there is an international element or allegations of serious harm and abuse. She has significant experience in working with clients with learning disabilities.

PRACTICE AREAS

Private Law Children

Finance and Private Client

Human Rights

International Family Law

EXPERIENCE

Hannah has appeared in three significant cases before the Court of Appeal. In 2018, Hannah was a shortlisted for Family Law Young Barrister of the Year.

Hannah has also worked in the area of historic institutional child abuse having formed part of a high-profile legal team for a survivors group, providing representation around the formation of a redress scheme.

Hannah is committed to promoting access to justice for all. She regularly undertakes pro bono work and as Co-Chair of the Society of Labour Lawyers Family Group, Hannah has given evidence to the Bach Commission on access to justice, specifically about the impact of legal aid cuts on the family courts. She has provided commentary on the draft domestic abuse bill and proposals for policy reform.

She is the safeguarding governor of a local primary school.

PUBLICATIONS

‘Show some restraint’

An analysis of principles behind the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA 2005) in relation to the recent headlines regarding forced sterilisation. Published in the July issue of PS Magazine.

‘Section 20: Abused, or just not used?’ Published August 17 2015 in Family Law Online.

‘Exceptional circumstances legal aid: the ‘fig leaf’ of a ‘system which is neither compassionate nor even humane’

Deprivation of liberty in the home: the end of the ‘fairytale’?

Powers of restraint: the path of least intervention?

Recent Court of Protection case law on ‘the least restrictive option’.

CASES

[Re Z \(A Child\) \(Order for no contact\) \[2023\] EWFC 61](#)

[Re D & E and F & A Local Authority \[2022\] EWHC 3450 \(Fam\)](#)

Re R (Children) (Control of Court Documents) [2021] EWCA Civ 162

Re G (Children: Intractable Dispute) [2019] EWCA Civ 548

Re P-S (Children) [2018] EWCA Civ 140

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

University of Oxford, St Hilda's College: BA (Hons) Music

City Law School: Post-Graduate Diploma in Law

City Law School: Bar Practice Training Course

Family Law Bar Association

Middle Temple

Bar Pro Bono Unit Panel Member

Society of Labour Lawyers

AWARDS

Astbury Scholarship, Middle Temple, 2012

Harmsworth Exhibition, Middle Temple, 2011

St. Hilda's College, Oxford, Music Scholarship, 2010
