

ANTHONY FORDE

Year called 2022 clerks@coramchambers.com +44 (0)20 7092 3700



OVERVIEW

Anthony has a busy practice representing a wide range of clients in public and private law children matters. He has a vast amount of experience separately representing children and young people in public and private law proceedings in the Family Court.

Anthony began his career as a Solicitor Advocate specialising in all matters under the Children Act 1989 and as a member of the Law Society Children Panel Accreditation Scheme. He joined Coram Chambers in July 2024.

PRACTICE AREAS

Anthony also has experience dealing with issues in both public and private law children including:

Forced Marriage

Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control

Chronic Neglect

Sexual Abuse

Substance Misuse

Non-Accidental Injury

Fabricated Illness

Serious Criminal Offences Including Terrorism and Murder

Parental Alienation

Children Beyond Parental Control

Mental Health

Wardship

Deprivation of Liberty Orders

Secure Accommodation Orders

Jurisdiction Disputes

Adoption Breakdown

Special Guardianship Orders

Human Rights

EXPERIENCE

Anthony has over 10 years of experience in the field of Family and Children Law. He was admitted to the Roll of Solicitors in 2014.

Anthony obtained Law Society Children Panel Accreditation in 2015 and is a highly skilled solicitor and advocate. He also obtained Higher Rights of Audience – Civil.

Anthony represents all clients in the Family Court at all levels, from the Lay Bench to the High Court.

Anthony deals with cases of a wide-ranging level of complexity – from case management hearings to contested interim hearings and multi-day final and fact-finding hearings.

He has been regularly instructed by Cafcass Guardians since 2015 to represent the voices of children in private law and public law children.

As a result of his background as a solicitor, Anthony has a strong understanding of Legal Aid Agency rules regarding Children Act 1989 matters.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Barbri Altior – Higher Rights Civil College of Law – LPC University of Kent – LLB and LLM

Law Society – Children Panel Accreditation Association of Lawyers for Children

CASES

2023 – Acted for the Father in London Borough of X v M & Ors [2023] EWFC 171. The case involved allegations of inter-sibling sexual abuse, the Local Authority alleged that the parents failed to protect the children. At the conclusion of the fact finding, minimal findings were made against the parents and the case proceeded to a final welfare hearing.

2021 – Acted for children in a case involving contested vaccination of children subject to interim care orders.

2020 – Represented teenager separately from his Guardian as a victim and perpetrator in a sexual abuse case. Successfully sought an amendment to Threshold Findings removing the client as a perpetrator.

2019 – Represented a client in a fabricated illness case.

2019 – Represented the children in a complex fact-finding hearing in a private law matter and sought findings of coercive control, rape and domestic abuse.

2018 – Represented the surviving children in a case involving siblings murdered by their parents.

2018 – Represented the children in a case involving a family cult where interim separation was sought by the Guardian in a case pleaded solely on emotional harm. Anthony personally represented the children in this case through 14 case management hearings and a 15-day fact-finding/final hearing.

2018 – Represented the children through their Guardian in a case that ran concurrently with criminal proceedings as a result of a murder.

2017 – Represented the Child separately in a complex secure accommodation and Deprivation of Liberty (DoLS) proceedings where the issues included religious radicalisation. Anthony achieved an outcome whereby the Court refused the Local Authority and Guardian's approach and authorised the placing of the child back in parental care.

2015 – Acted for the Mother in a case before the High Court (Abduction Proceedings) that concluded the Mother can remain in the UK.