



Gillian Irving KC

(1984 | Silk: 2006) Door Tenant

Specialist Areas

Public Law Children: Care Proceedings and Adoption

Private Law Children: Residence and Contact

Out of Court Solutions (NCDR)

Who is Gillian Irving KC?

Gillian Irving KC practises in public children law, private children law and public inquiries.

Gillian Irving KC also practises from 15 Winckley Square Chambers in Preston and Broadway House Chambers, Leeds.

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No.18 Chambers is a distinguished set of barristers based in Southampton, recognised for its strong reputation and presence across the South Coast of England. Our expertise cover a range of practice areas, including Family Law (Care Proceedings and Adoption, Private Law Children, Matrimonial Finance), Employment, Chancery and Commercial Law, Property Disputes, together with Dispute Resolution and Mediation. Our members are committed to delivering expert legal advice and representation to clients nationwide, offering extensive experience in handling both complex and sensitive matters.



Legal Expertise

For more information or to get in touch with Gillian please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

Public Law Children: Care Proceedings and Adoption

Gillian Irving KC represents local authorities, parents and extended families, and children in the public law arena. She has extensive experience in complex and high-profile High Court children's cases involving:

- The death and catastrophic non-accidental injuries to a child.
- Non-Accidental head injury and allegations of shaking.
- Fabricated and Induced illness including poisoning, equipment interference.
- Sexual abuse of children, historic, intergenerational, inter sibling.
- Radicalisation cases.
- Many of the cases involve the cross-examination of vulnerable adults or children and involve concurrent criminal proceedings.

Cases where the issues include arguments surrounding community care provision and entitlement for children in need.

Private Law Children: Residence and Contact

Private Law Children: Contact and Residence Disputes Under the Children Act 1989

Gillian Irving KC represents parents and extended families in Complex private law proceedings involving allegations of physical and emotional neglect, impact of parental mental illness on parenting, allegations of physical and sexual abuse, relocation, contact disputes and change of child's place of residence.

Out of Court Solutions (NCDR)

Single Joint Advices/Early Neutral Evaluation

Round Table Meetings/Joint Conferences

Merits, Advice, Drafting And Support Package



Professional Info

For more information or to get in touch with Gillian please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

Qualifications

B.A. (Hons), Law

From 1998 – 2021 Gillian Irving KC sat as a fee paid Judge on the Mental Health Review Tribunal and the Care Standards Tribunal . these both form parts of the Health and Social Care Chamber. This has given Gillian Irving KC an excellent working knowledge of the impact of mental disorders and illness on parenting and children.

Membership

Inner Temple

Family Law Bar Association

Personal Info

Interests-anything to do with animals, the countryside, travelling to Italy and horse-racing.



Cases of Note

For more information or to get in touch with Gillian please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

Gillian Irving KC, a door tenant at No.18 Chambers, is a highly respected barrister specialising in public and private children law, as well as public inquiries. With a career spanning several decades, she has been involved in numerous complex and high-profile cases concerning serious allegations such as non-accidental injuries, sexual abuse, and radicalisation. Her extensive experience includes representing local authorities, parents, and children in proceedings that often involve concurrent criminal investigations and sensitive cross-examinations of vulnerable witnesses.

Additionally, her tenure as a fee-paid judge on the Mental Health Review Tribunal and the Care Standards Tribunal has provided her with a deep understanding of the impact of mental health issues on family dynamics. Peers and clients commend her for her meticulous preparation, formidable advocacy, and unwavering commitment to child welfare.

Re G (Finding of Fact Hearing: Resuscitative Shake) [2022] EWFC B6 (21 January 2022)

Lancashire County Council v E & F [2020] EWHC 182 (Fam) (04 February 2020)

A Metropolitan District Council v M & Ors [2019] EWFC 15 (08 March 2019)

GD & BD (Children) (Rev 1) [2016] EWHC 3312 (Fam)

F v Cumbria County Council and M (Fact Finding) (Number 2) [2016] EWHC 14(Fam)

Cumbria County Council v M and Ors [2015] 918 (Fam)

F v Cumbria County Council & Anor (No 6) (Publicity) [2015] EWHC 3228

Cumbria County Council V M & Ors [2014] EWHC 4486 (11/7/2014)

Cumbria County Council v M and F [2014] EWHC 2596 (28/7/2014)

Cumbria County Council v M & Ors [2014] EWHC 4485 (18/12/2014)

J, A, M and X (Children) [2013] EWHC 4648

Re X (A child) [2011] EWHC 430

G v E & Others [2010] EWHC 621

G v E & Others [2010] EWHC 2512



Cases of Note

For more information or to get in touch with Gillian please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

Greater Manchester Chief Constable v KI & Anor (Children) & Ors [2007] EWHC 1837 (Fam)

C v Bury MBC [2002] 2 FLR 868

A Metropolitan Borough Council v DB [1997] 1 FLR 767

R v Devon County Council ex-parte O (Adoption) [1997] 2 FLR 388

Stockport MBC v D [1995] 1 FLR 873

Manchester City Council v S [1991] 2 FLR 370

Court of Appeal (Civil Division)

Re S and H-S (children) [2018] EWCA Civ 1282

Re W (children) [2016] EWCA Civ 113

Re P (A Child) [2015] EWCA Civ 170

CM V Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. [2014] EWCA Civ 1479

G v E & Others [2010] EWCA Civ 822

CJ v Flintshire Borough Council [2010] EWCA Civ 393

Re CH (Care or Interim Care Order) [1998] 1 FLR 402

Re B (Care and Supervision Order: Assessment) [1996] 2 FLR 708

Re C (Interim Care Order: Assessment) [1996] 2 FLR 708



Cases of Note

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Supreme Court

Re L & B (Children) [2013] UKSC 8

Re C (Interim care order: Residential Assessment) [1996] UKHL4

Upper Tribunal

MD v Mersey Care NHS Trust [2013] UKUT 127 (AAC)

MD v Nottinghamshire Health Care NHS Trust (Rev 1) [2010] UKUT 59 (AAC)

Inquiries

The Inquiry into the Personality Disorder Unit at Ashworth Special Hospital 1996–1997

The Inquiry into the death of child 'X' 2005/2006



Reviews

For more information or to get in touch with Gillian please contact the clerks room who will be happy to assist you.

"She is always the best prepared advocate in court, fierce in cross-examination, never intimidated or out manoeuvred by anyone and always at least two steps ahead of everyone else" - Legal 500, 2021

"Singled out for childcare matters... the 'feisty' Gillian Irving QC is recommended for childcare work" - Legal 500 UK 2012

"Gillian Irving is a 'sensitive' lawyer perfectly suited to complex mental health cases" - Legal 500 UK 2006

Tier One Advocate for Public and Private Law - Legal 500, 2022

"Excellent in cases involving children and vulnerable clients" - Legal 500 UK 2008

A fantastic and formidable advocate - Legal 500, 2020

"... expert Gillian Irving is known for her sensitivity" - Legal 500 UK 2005

Gillian is utterly fearless and dedicated. She stands out for her thorough preparation, detailed and expansive knowledge and her ability to foresee and advise on issues in advance. - Legal 500, 2024

"Builds on her national reputation in care and Court of Protection work, drawing praise for her strong advocacy and gentle nature with her clients. Expertise:"She is strong-willed, powerful and able to turn a case around". "Gillian is feisty, and does excellent work with children and vulnerable clients" - Chambers & Partners 2014

She is fierce in cross-examination - Legal 500, 2019