

1GC | Family Law

Anna Lavelle

Year of Call: 2016



Practice Overview

Anna practices in all aspects of children work private and public and financial remedies disputes. This including high conflict private cases, international disputes and complex public law work. She has significant experience representing all parties in cases involving implacable hostility and allegations of serious abuse.

Anna is regularly instructed at all levels of Court and has appeared in a number of reported public law cases and cases in the Court of Appeal. Anna is ranked as a leading junior in the Legal 500.

Anna accepts public access instructions.

Children (Private Law)

Anna regularly represents clients who are involved in private children proceedings at all stages of proceedings. Anna has particular expertise in complex fact-finding hearings (in respect of domestic abuse, abuse relating to the child and/or parental alienation)

Anna has particular experience of representing parties in cases involving parental alienation and intractable contact disputes. This has included cases where the court has transferred residence.

She has a particular interest in applications for permission to relocate with children and has represented parents in applications for relocation both internally and internationally, including to non-Hague Convention countries.

Children (Public Law)

Anna has regularly instructed in care and other public children proceedings at all stages of experience. She has represented the local authority, parents and children including where allegations of neglect, abuse, non-accidental injury, mental health issues and drug/alcohol abuse have been made.

Anna is also often led in complex care proceedings and is frequently involved with cases beyond her years of call including complicated fact-finding hearings features allegations of non-accidental injury, sexual abuse and fabricated or induced illness.

Anna also has experience in applications for secure accommodation and deprivation of liberty orders

representing the child, parents and the local authority.

Family Finance & Property

Anna has broad experience in the family finance field, and she regularly represents clients across all stages of financial remedy proceedings including at FDAs, FDRs, Preliminary and Final Hearings. She also welcomes instructions for advisory work and drafting.

She has experience of cases involving add-back, non-disclosure, non-matrimonial property, foreign assets and company assets.

Anna also acts and advises in cases involving financial provision for children under Schedule 1, and TOLATA.

Domestic Violence & Injunctions

Anna represents clients who are involved in Family Law Act 1996 proceedings, including proceedings involving allegations of serious domestic abuse and where those applications are linked to Children Act 1989 proceedings. She has extensive experience of applications for non-molestation orders and occupation orders and of the different types of hearing, including without notice hearings, return dates, directions hearings and final hearings.

Court of Protection

Anna is developing her practice in the Court of Protection. Anna has particular experience in cases involving capacity to consent to sexual relations and marriage.

Notable Cases

A, B And C (Children), Re [2021] EWCA Civ 451 (01 April 2021)

M (Children) v Wiltshire Council & Ors [2020] EWCA Civ 1717 (18 December 2020)

NB, Re (Consent to sex) [2019] EWCOP 17 (07 May 2019)

London Borough of Tower Hamlets v NB (Consent to Sex) [2019] EWCOP 27 (16 July 2019)

What the directories say

"Anna's interpersonal skills are excellent, and she puts clients at ease instantly. Her attention to detail and advocacy is stellar." Tier 6 - Legal 500, 2025

"Anna is extremely thorough. She has a great manner with clients that instantly puts them at ease. She is very responsive, and her advocacy is calm, measured and convincing, one to watch." Rising Star - Legal 500, 2024

"Anna is an excellent advocate and presented the client's case well, even in difficulties. She adapted well to the opponent's strange position and is able to think on her feet and take cues from the judge. She remained client focused throughout and well prepared." Rising Star

- Legal 500, 2023

Education

BA (Hons) History, Bristol University

GDL, Distinction, City University

BPTC, Outstanding, City University

Awards

The William Rose Memorial Prize for Excellence in Drafting

Memberships & Associations

Association of Lawyers for Children

Court of Protection Bar Association

Family Law Bar Association

Honourable Society of the Inner Temple

Resolution

Seminars, Publications and Training

Anna writes and lectures on a range of family law topics. She has published articles for Lexis Nexis and has provided case summaries for Family Law week.

Anna has also contributed to the 1GC book 'Applications under Schedule 1 to the Children Act 1989'.

She gave a webinar on "**Contact in the time of Quarantine**" as part of the 1GC Family Law Webinar Series (May 2020).

She recently gave a talk in relation to children giving evidence in court proceedings and a transparency talk in relation to the recent transparency pilot.