

# 1GC | Family Law

## Catherine Jenkins

Year of Call: 1990



## Practice Overview

### Children (public law)

Catherine's practice is entirely within family law relating to children; public and private law.

Her particular field of expertise is in public law care proceedings including cases involving the death of a child or parent, inflicted or non accidental injury, complex medical issues, serious sexual abuse, mental health issues learning disability and addiction.

Catherine is very often instructed on behalf of children's guardians, and competent children, but also represents local authorities and parents.

Her practice also encompasses care proceedings with an international element.

She acts for all parties in adoption cases.

### Most notable cases include:

*Re A Adoption: Long term fostering* [2015]. EWCA 1021

*Re H* [2015] EWCA Civ 1289

*Re W* [2017] EWCA 829 (fam)

### Children (private law)

Catherine represents parents and children through their 16.4 guardian within private law proceedings.

### International family law

Catherine undertakes child abduction work and all types of care proceedings with an international element, often cases involving the operation of Brussels II and the movement of children.

Most notable cases include:

*Re B (A Child)* [2013] EWCA Civ 1434

## What the directories say

**2019:** Public law specialist who represents children, parents and local authorities in cases involving abuse and non-accidental injury. She also offers expertise in international adoption and forced marriage proceedings. *"Catherine is really excellent. She fights the good fight, but does it realistically. She remains the absolute professional throughout proceedings, and takes everything in her stride."* **Chambers UK**

**2018:** Public law specialist who represents children, parents and local authorities in cases involving abuse and non-accidental injury. She also offers expertise in international adoption and forced marriage proceedings.

**Strengths:** *"She is a very skilled advocate who is incredibly effective."*

**2017:** Public law specialist who represents children, parents and local authorities in cases involving abuse and non-accidental injury. She also offers expertise in international adoption proceedings.

*"She's hugely experienced" and "someone who fights her cases with skill."*

**2016:** *"She has great client care skills and fights her cases with skill. She is very friendly when she cross-examines until she moves in for the kill."*

**2015:** *"She has common sense, and doesn't take stupid points for the sake of it. She knows when to push something and when to leave something."*

**2014:** *"her advice and her judgement are both superb."*

**2013:** highly strong and collaborative ethic when dealing with instructing solicitors *"she has a lovely nature but get her into court and she'll fight all the way."*

## Education

BA (Joint Hons) Law and English Keele  
BVC

## Memberships & Associations

FLBA  
ALC  
Honourable society of Middle Temple

Seminars, publications and training

Catherine often speaks at chambers seminars and undertaking training for social workers and other

professionals.

#### Personal Interest

Chair of trustees of Box Clever Theatre Company, which provides contemporary theatre for young people.

A season ticket holder at Arsenal Football club.

Sailing, theatre, walking and travel.