

# 1GC | Family Law

## Daisy Hughes

Year of Call: 1999



## Practice Overview

Daisy specialises in family law as it relates to children.

She represents local authorities, parents (including prospective adoptive parents), extended family members (particularly grandparents), foster carers and children at all stages of public and private law Children Act and Adoption matters and is also experienced in cases involving the alleged "radicalisation" of children. She acts in cases involving complex medical and factual evidence arising from possible non-accidental injuries and in cases in which there are allegations of sexual or physical abuse.

Daisy is particularly experienced in complex private law cases, including those in which the child is separately represented, those involving lesbian mothers and/or gay fathers and those involving complex religious considerations.

Daisy is also experienced in cases of international abduction, international adoption and the application of Brussels II Revised in both public and private law cases.

Daisy appears regularly in relocation cases.

## Children (public law)

Daisy represents local authorities, parents (including prospective adoptive parents), extended family members (particularly grandparents), foster carers and children at all stages of public law Children Act and Adoption matters. She is experienced in cases involving the alleged "radicalisation" of children and appeared as junior counsel for the mother in the case of **London Borough of Tower Hamlets v B [2016] EWHC 1707 (Fam)**.

Daisy successfully represented the father in the Court of Appeal in the matter of **Re J (a child) [2015] EWCA Civ 222**, in which the Court of Appeal overturned care and placement orders made at first instance.

Daisy also successfully represented the birth father before Baker J on an application to oppose an adoption order [**Re LG (Adoption: Leave to Oppose) [2015] EWFC 52**]. This led to the return of the child from the prospective adopters to the care of the birth family.

She acts in cases involving complex medical and factual evidence arising from possible non-

accidental injuries and in cases in which there are allegations of sexual or physical abuse. She was junior counsel for the local authority in ***Re U (Care Proceedings: Criminal Conviction: Refusal to Give Evidence [2006] 2 FLR 690*** in which a number of interesting and unusual points arose regarding treatment of the father's criminal conviction for the murder of his baby daughter.

She is experienced in cases involving complex scientific evidence and appeared as junior counsel for the mother before Hayden J in ***R (A Child - Care Order) [2017] EWHC 364 (Fam)*** in which there was a dispute between experts as to the proper interpretation of hair strand test results.

Daisy appeared for the local authority in a long-running dispute before Cobb J between gay fathers and lesbian mothers concerning the contact and living arrangements of their daughters. [***Re A and B (Contact) (No 2) [2015] 2 FLR 913; Re A and B (Contact) (No 3) [2015] 2 FLR 935; Re A and B (Contact) (No 4) [2015] EWHC 2839 (Fam)***]

## Children (private law)

Daisy regularly represents parents, extended family members and children at all stages of private law children proceedings.

She is experienced in complex private law cases, including those in which: the child is separately represented; there are gay father(s)/ lesbian mother(s); there are questions relating to legal parenthood; there is suspected parental alienation/ implacable hostility and/or difficult religious considerations.

Daisy also appears regularly in relocation cases.

## International family law

Daisy appears regularly in relocation cases.

Daisy is experienced in cases of international abduction, international adoption and the application of Brussels II Revised in both public and private law cases. She was junior counsel for Children and Families Across Borders ("CFAB"), interveners in the recent Supreme Court case of ***AR (Children) (Scotland) [2015] UKSC 35*** concerning the Hague Convention on Child Abduction. She was junior counsel for the Guardian (led by Janet Bazley QC) in the case of ***London Borough of Lambeth v JO & Ors [2014] EWHC 3597 (Fam)***.

## What the directories say

**2019:** *'A great asset to the client in court.'* **Legal 500**

*"Daisy has an extraordinary manner with clients. She has the ability to tap into a client's concerns, feelings and fears, and ensures her advice caters to that."* **Chambers UK**

**2018:** "Highly effective advocate, extremely adept at particularly technical issues but also exceptionally supportive and humane when faced with sensitive topics and vulnerable clients." **Chambers UK**

**2017:** "She's fantastic, very methodical in approaching complicated cases and excellent on areas of law that are not part of the everyday. Her client care is just wonderful. She's very compassionate to her clients whilst being an outstanding advocate. Judges are incredibly complimentary about her." **Chambers UK**

'She is a strong all-round performer.' **Legal 500**

## Notable Cases

*R (A Child - Care Order)* [2017] EWHC 364 (Fam)

*London Borough of Tower Hamlets v B* [2016] EWHC 1707 (Fam).

*AR (Children) (Scotland)* [2015] UKSC 35

*Re J (a child)* [2015] EWCA Civ 222,

*Re LG (Adoption: Leave to Oppose)* [2015] EWFC 52

*Re A and B (Contact) (No 2)* [2015] 2 FLR 913; *Re A and B (Contact) (No 3)* [2015] 2 FLR 935; *Re A and B (Contact) (No 4)* [2015] EWHC 2839 (Fam)]

*London Borough of Lambeth v JO & Ors* [2014] EWHC 3597 (Fam)

*Re U (Care Proceedings: Criminal Conviction: Refusal to Give Evidence)* [2006] 2 FLR 690)

## Education

Oxford University BA (Hons) (Jurisprudence)

## Awards

Pegasus Scholarship (Inner Temple) 2003

Harmsworth Entrance Exhibition (Middle Temple) 1999

## Memberships & Associations

Family Law Bar Association

The Honourable Society of Middle Temple

Association of Lawyers for Children

South Eastern Circuit

Languages

French