

# 1GC | Family Law

## Laura Briggs

Year of Call: 2001



## Practice Overview

Laura specialises in family law and has been practising for over 15 years in this area. She advises and represents children, parents, relatives, prospective adopters and local authorities.

Laura has a very strong reputation in all areas of children law, particularly in relation to her work in complex private law matters and child protection cases. She acts in cases involving allegations of sexual abuse, including historical sexual abuse, non-accidental injury, fabricated induced illness and radicalisation. In the private law sphere, she frequently represents parents applying for leave to remove children from the jurisdiction.

## Children (Public Law)

Laura has a wealth of experience representing both applicant local authorities and respondent families and children in care proceedings. She is well versed in child protection procedure within Local Authorities, including pre-proceedings and offers sensitive and straightforward advice to those she represents. She has appeared in multi-week trials in the Family Court and High Court, alone and as a leading junior.

### Notable cases include:

*Re D (A Child) (Appeal out of Time)* [2020] EWHC 1167 (Fam)

*M (Children)* [2019] EWCA Civ 1364

*P-S* [2018] EWCA Civ 1407

*Re W-C* [2017] EWCA Civ 250

*X and Y (Children: Fact-Finding Judgment)* [2016] EWFC B117

*X and Y (Children: Final Judgment)* [2016] EWFC B118

*London Borough of Barking & Dagenham v C & M* [2014] EWHC 2472

*Re M (Children: Jurisdiction)* [2016] EWFC B92

*K (Children: Injuries)* [2016] EWFC B120

## **Children (Private Law)**

Laura has a busy private law practice, representing mothers and fathers in applications for orders relating to child arrangements. She has experience in international cases including those where child abduction is an issue and in which leave to remove from the jurisdiction is sought

### **Notable cases include:**

*In the Matter of H (Children) (Appeal: Case Management: Part 25 of Expert Treatment)* [2019] EWHC 237 (Fam)

## **International Family Law**

Laura's experience in international family law includes representing parents in the UK where child abduction is an issue and where leave to remove from the jurisdiction is sought. Laura has appeared in cases in which jurisdiction is an issue, including requests for transfer of jurisdiction under Article 15 of Brussels IIa. She also has experience in practising internationally, having worked as an attorney in the Cayman Islands in 2010 – 2011, during which time most of her practice involved cases with an international element, including leave to remove children from the jurisdiction temporarily and permanently, and cases in which jurisdiction is an issue.

### **Notable cases include:**

*Re Orphans from Syria* [2019] EWHC 3202 (Fam)

*London Borough of Barking & Dagenham v C & M* [2014] EWHC 2472; *Re M (Children: Jurisdiction)* [2016] EWFC B92

## **Domestic Violence & Injunctions**

Laura often represents clients who are seeking or responding to applications for non-molestation orders, occupation orders and orders for financial assistance in conjunction with occupation orders under s40 of the Family Law Act 1996.

## **What the Directories Say**

*'Laura has an excellent ability to grasp the key issues and facts from an early stage.'* **Legal 500, 2018/19**

*'She has an approachable manner, and is a persuasive and confident advocate.'* **Chambers and Partners, 2019**

*'She's very personable and has a good client manner with people from all walks of life. She shows fantastic attention to detail, is able to pick out the key issues in cases and is really effective in court.'* **Chambers and Partners, 2017**

*'She is brilliant with vulnerable and less able clients – patient and compassionate.'* **Legal 500, 2017**

*'She has amazing attention to detail, is brilliant with clients, is a great advocate, has a very calm persona and is very effective.'* **Chambers and Partners, 2016**

## **Education**

LLB (Hons), University of Manchester  
BVC, Inns of Court School of Law

## **Appointments**

Recorder (Family Law), South Eastern Circuit (2015)

## **Memberships & Associations**

Family Law Bar Association  
Association of Lawyers for Children  
Honourable Society of the Inner Temple

Languages

Conversational French

Personal Interests

Travel (recent trips include Vietnam and Cambodia, Jordan, Pakistan), vintage cycle races (once a year), reading and food.