

# 1GC | Family Law

## Mark Blundell

Year of Call: 2021



## Practice Overview

Mark has a practice across the full range of chambers' specialisms including private children, care, and matrimonial finance work. He has appeared at all levels up to and including the High Court and accepts instructions in all areas of family law.

Prior to joining 1GC, Mark had a successful career as a secondary school teacher and Assistant Headteacher, qualifying via the Teach First scheme in 2011. Integral in the launch and leadership of an 'Outstanding' sixth form in East London, Mark has developed a broad base of experience in education and family matters. Mark is also an experienced consultant, specialising in education and children's services.

## Family Finance & Property

Mark practices in all aspects of financial remedies, including enforcement, variation and interim relief. Mark is regularly instructed to appear at all stages of financial remedy proceedings, including FDAs, FDRs and final hearings.

He has appeared in cases with net assets of up to £5 million and is experienced in dealing with complex issues of non-disclosure; hidden or overseas assets; setting aside transactions under s.37 MCA 1973; business assets; post-separation endeavour; and *Wells* sharing.

Mark also has experience advising on TOLATA and Schedule 1 claims and proceedings under Part III of the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984 and welcomes instructions in these areas.

## Children (Private Law)

Mark regularly acts for parents and children in section 8 Children Act 1989 applications at all stages including final hearings and fact-finding hearings.

Mark has extensive experience handling complex cases involving serious allegations, intractable contact disputes, alienating behaviours and applications for relocation and change of residence. Mark frequently represents parents and rule 16.4 guardians at every stage of proceedings and has a particular interest in complex fact-finding hearings (including in respect of domestic abuse and/or parental alienation).

## Children (Public Law)

Mark has experience of care and other public children proceedings. He has represented local authorities, parents, children and potential Special Guardians, including where allegations of neglect, abuse, mental health issues and drug/alcohol abuse have been made.

Mark also has experience in applications for secure accommodation and deprivation of liberty orders representing the child, parents and the local authority.

## **Domestic Violence & Injunctions**

Mark regularly represents clients who are seeking or responding to applications for injunctions linked to domestic violence or occupation of the family home.

## **Notable Cases**

*C v B* [2023] EWFC 293 (B)

*TJ v RC & Anor* [2023] EWFC 189

*London Borough of Ealing v Mother & Ors* [2023] EWFC 201

## **Education**

BA Philosophy, Politics & Economics, 2:1, University of Oxford (2010)

PGCE, Distinction, Canterbury Christ Church University (2012)

GDL, Distinction, BPP Law School (2020)

MA Philosophy of Education, Distinction, Institute of Education (UCL) (2021)

BVS, Distinction, City University (2021)

## **Awards**

Everard Ver Heyden Foundation Prize, City Law School

The Incorporated Council of Law Reporting Busfield Prize for Opinion Writing, City Law School

Bacon Award, Gray's Inn

GDL Career Commitment Scholarship, BPP Law School