



PARK  
SQUARE

BARRISTERS

## Charlotte Worsley QC

Call: 2002 - Silk 2022

### Children Law

Ranked in Tier 1 for Family and Children Law – The Legal 500 (2022), Band 2 Chambers and Partners (2022).

Charlotte Worsley is Head of our Family Team and has been a practitioner in Family Law since 2002. She handles all aspects of children work, with particular emphasis on public-law proceedings and all aspects of care and adoption proceedings.

“She is hugely impressive, dedicated to her clients, and very popular with fellow practitioners and judges alike.” “She is a very good advocate with an excellent reputation.” “She is an incredible force to reckon with.” Chambers and Partners (2022)”

“Charlotte is at the top of her game. She is an exceptional advocate; precise, thoughtful and knowledgeable. Her client care is second to none especially with vulnerable clients. She commands respect from judges and fellow advocates alike.” – The Legal 500 (2022)

“She’s well prepared, always thinks carefully about her case and has good client care.” “She’s exceptional. She has an excellent reputation, whether she is acting for the parent or local authority or child, and she does excellent evaluation of the evidence and the advocacy is spot on. She’s just on point.” – Chambers and Partners (2021)

“Miss Worsley is highly experienced and is certainly a senior junior locally and in her set. Her role as Head of the Family Team at PSQB is a real credit to her work, practice and her commitment to the team. Miss Worsley goes over and above for her clients. She is a fierce but fair advocate and she is



#### Education:

1999 - Emmanuel College, Cambridge University, MA (Hons) Social Anthropology

2002 - College of Law, London PGDL & BVC

#### Career:

2002 - Pupil at 9 Gough Square, London

2003 - Tenant at No 6, Leeds

2018 - Head of Family Team PSQB

#### Memberships:

North Eastern Circuit

Criminal Bar Association

Family Law Bar Association

Secretary for Middle Temple North Eastern Circuit Society

Lawyers for Children Committee

excellent at picking up nuances within the case which can get overlooked.” – The Legal 500 (2021)

“She’s a fighter and not afraid of standing up to judges” – Chambers and Partners (2020)

“A skilled and measured advocate.” – The Legal 500 (2020)

“An impressive advocate who will fight tooth and nail for her clients.” – The Legal 500 (2019)

“She is great with vulnerable clients” – The Legal 500 2018)

“Superb. Equal to the leading counsel instructed for the other parties and demonstrated a very significant presence. I was very impressed.” (Solicitor)

“Exceptional client handling skills equally experienced at dealing with very difficult violent clients and the most vulnerable of children” (Solicitor)

“I am very grateful for the hard work that she undertook on this case and for the very measured and thorough closing submissions. I think that they encapsulate our client’s evidence, instructions and demeanour in a sensitive manner.” (Solicitor)

“Sterling work from committed and competent lawyers in ensuring P’s position was placed before the court without making her feel that she had betrayed her family” (Official Solicitor)

## Public law

Charlotte is often instructed on behalf of local authorities, parents, extended family and children’s guardians. She has extensive experience of proceedings at all levels and has a clear understanding of issues affecting the crossover between criminal and family jurisdictions (often representing clients in both jurisdictions).

She is regularly instructed in complex matters involving non-accidental injuries (including serious fractures and brain injury through shaking); sexual abuse; child sexual exploitation, chronic neglect; physical & mental disabilities; fabricated induced illness, drug & alcohol abuse and forensic computer evidence. She has a specialism in cases concerning extremism and radicalisation.

## Private law

Charlotte has considerable experience of complex family conflicts within residence and contact cases, including specific-issue orders, domestic abuse cases and applications to remove children from the jurisdiction.

## Approach

Charlotte is a superb communicator, she is a robust advocate whilst remaining sensitive and approachable to lay and professional clients. Charlotte can always be contacted to advise in care proceedings and to assist by telephone and email.

## Notable cases

Many of the cases in which Charlotte appears are unreported to protect the confidentiality of the family.

- RE D(A Child) (Appeal out of time) (2020) Led by Will Tyler QC representing the child supported a successful appeal in spite of the notice of appeal being more than three years late
- Wakefield Metropolitan District Council v R & Ors [2019] EWHC 3581 (Fam) (20 December 2019) Represented the Local Authority securing findings that both parents were in the pool of perpetrators for shaking their baby.
- Re HS 2019 – Represented the Mother found to have perpetrated non-accidental injuries to a baby. Notwithstanding the findings secured rehabilitation using the Resolution Approach.
- A Metropolitan District Council v M & Ors [2019] EWFC 15 (08 March 2019) – Leading Counsel representing the Father initially accused of raping seven-year-old daughter. Protected Father from findings of sexual abuse.
- Re RL 2019 – Secured the rehabilitation of children to the Mother’s care after exonerating her from perpetrating 21 fractures to her four-month-old baby.
- Re WG 2018 – Leading Counsel representing the Children (AW 17 and PG 6). AW disclosed systematic abuse against her stepfather over a period of seven years. Ensured AW was able to give evidence to the best of her ability. AW was believed and all findings were made.
- Re HA 2018 – Junior Counsel representing the child in a case concerning serious injuries caused to a nine week old baby. Injuries found to be caused by two incidents of shaking the perpetrator was identified.
- Re PS 2017 – Leading Counsel representing eleven-year-old child through the Official Solicitor. The child was accused by the rest of her family of causing skull fractures to her three-month-old niece. She was totally exonerated.
- RE BH (A CHILD) (HUMAN RIGHTS ACT INJUNCTION) [2017] EWFC 15 – Represented the Local Authority prevented from removing a two-year-old great-niece from a great aunt’s care pending final determination of a long-term placement. Although the great-aunt lacked parental

responsibility, the removal of a child from a longstanding family carer was virtually certain to engage the rights of both child and carer under ECHR Art.8 and was directly analogous to removal from a parent.

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- Re C, D and E – (Radicalisation: Fact-Finding) [2016] EWHC 3087 (Fam)
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- Re C, D and E – Radicalisation: Welfare) [2016] EWHC 3088 (Fam)
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- Represented a mother alleged to have tried to take her children to Syria to join the Caliphate in July 2015. She was found to have held radicalised views. After a period of bespoke work with CENTRI the children returned home under child in need plans.
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## Training

Charlotte regularly delivers Seminars and Lectures, including advocacy training, to colleagues, solicitors, social workers and students.

## Contact Charlotte's clerks

Claudine Cooper on 0113 202 8604

Paul Foster on 0113 213 5209

Arnela Siranovic on 0113 213 5212