



Louisa Adamson

Date of Call: 2008 (Middle Temple)

Qualifications: BA (Hons)

Memberships: Family Law Bar Association; Family Mediators Association; Resolution

Appointments: Accredited Mediator and Child Inclusive Mediator

Direct Access Qualified

Louisa is a specialist child law barrister who has practised exclusively in family law for over 25 years, representing parents, spouses, grandparents, children and local authorities. She is particularly experienced with cases where children are considered to be at risk, or where there has been domestic violence in a relationship.

She is known for her ability to work with her clients in a holistic and non-judgmental way. She will consider not only the legal aspects of a case, but also the emotional and practical issues that can shape her client's decisions.

Although Louise now focuses only on cases involving children (either in Private Law or Public Law) her additional 20 years' experience of working on financial provision cases also stands her in good stead within her busy mediation practice.

She is accredited by the Family Mediation Council to undertake mediations involving both finances and arrangements for children, and is able to conduct Mediation Information Assessment Meeting (MIAM) sessions and child-inclusive mediations, completing the form required to make an application to Court where appropriate.

She offers online mediation sessions using Zoom, allowing clients to begin or continue mediation from the comfort of their own home. Many of her clients prefer the online approach as it means they don't have to be in the same room as the other party, making it much easier for them to focus on and resolve the issues at hand.

Louisa provides her clients with clear, objective advice, allowing them to make their decisions in full knowledge and understanding of the proceedings and their implications. At court, she will ensure that her client's position is put appropriately and persuasively before the Judge.



Louisa is able to accept instructions through the Direct Public Access scheme.

Children – Public Law

Louisa is regularly instructed to represent parents, grandparents and children in Care and Adoption proceedings, and her work in this area has included cases involving neglect or emotional harm of children as well as cases where there have been allegations of serious non-accidental injury or sexual abuse.

Her non-judgmental and objective approach is particularly valuable in her frequent work with parents who are also facing criminal proceedings as a result of such allegations, as well as for parents who may have substance abuse difficulties or who suffer from mental health or learning difficulties.

Louisa's experience of acting for parents with learning difficulties enables her to ensure that fair assessments are undertaken, and that those parents are able to engage effectively in the Court hearings.

Private Law (Child Arrangements Programme (CAP))

Within private law proceedings Louisa often represents parents, who, after separation, have been unable to agree which parent their child/ren should live with and how to manage the arrangements for the child to see both parents.

She also advises and represents parents hoping to move abroad with their children, to change their child's school or surname, or in cases involving other aspects of parental responsibility.

She approaches cases with clarity and objectivity, helping clients to approach and overcome the barriers caused by emotional conflict, and to agree on win-win solutions.

Her cases regularly include those where allegations of domestic violence or physical, emotional or sexual abuse of a child are being made by one parent against the other.

She has also acted for many grandparents who are seeking either Contact or Special Guardianship Orders for their grandchildren.

Louisa fully understands how emotional and stressful cases involving children are likely to be, and her clients appreciate her calm, objective approach, which helps them to fully discuss all their concerns.

Louisa is recommended in Chambers and Partners and The Legal 500:

"A highly experienced family lawyer and mediator who is particularly esteemed for her work in public law children cases, including care and adoption proceedings, and matters involving domestic and sexual abuse. She acts for a variety of clients, including local authorities, children, parents and grandparents."



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"She is a caring advocate who manages clients well." "She deals with acrimonious children cases with a sensible, practical, no-nonsense style." Chambers and Partners 2021

"She is brilliant. She is calm, helpful and very experienced; great with vulnerable clients." "She is able to develop a rapport with the client; a great advocate." Chambers and Partners 2016

"She has a very gentle nature but fights a case really well. She takes cases very seriously and is able to explain things clearly to clients." "Louisa is very experienced and comes across well with clients. She's fantastic, especially with public law and ancillary relief matters" Chambers and Partners 2015

"She is sharp and on-the-ball and, in a difficult situation and with challenging cases, adopts just the right tone to get the job done." Legal 500 2021

"Very good with vulnerable clients, and learning-disabled clients in particular." Legal 500 2015

Testimonials

"From zero experience with proceedings of any kind, I've gone to actually gaining custody of my son! I really appreciate that result which I didn't even think was possible. You kept me grounded about the low likelihood of that success but also really focussed my mind about what I wanted out of the Court process. I just wanted to say thanks again. You represented me impeccably."

"Thank you so much for your help in getting this all agreed today. I appreciated your views, advice and suggestions-they helped to take the stress out of this as it is emotional."

"Following an acrimonious separation, I sought the representation of Louisa for my FDHRA and Second Child Arrangements hearing via the Direct Access Scheme. The court process is very stressful and the system can be quite complex. However, I found Louisa's support to be invaluable, helping me to make sense of the process and find a way forward to protect the interests of my daughter, pending a final outcome. Throughout the process, Louisa offered me clarity and understanding. As a true professional, she listened to my concerns and worked hard to take the heat out of matters, whilst putting the interests of the child foremost at all times. Overall, I felt she went above and beyond what I expected in providing support and direction to me and would recommend her services to any parent experiencing the court system."

"....Excellent in all areas....financially it was less expensive....I personally felt that because I was able to have direct contact with the barrister that communicating was easier, I felt in control of what was said and put across, essentially it was cutting out the middleman....definitely worth it...."