



Emma Harman

Year of Call: 2003

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Recommendations

Emma Harman is respected for her advocacy in public and private family law cases. Her caseload includes sensitive matters concerning sexual and domestic abuse, as well as non-accidental injuries. She represents parents and local authorities.

Strengths: "Emma Harman is a superb advocate."

"Emma Harman is everything you'd want in a child law barrister – great with clients, meticulously prepared, and spot-on judgement."

Chambers UK 2025/Family/Children/Western Bar

Strengths: "Emma is an excellent and thorough advocate."

"Emma's level of knowledge regarding my case was so strong."

"She is highly respected among the judiciary on children work."

Chambers UK 2024/Family/Children/Western Bar

Strengths: "Emma is excellent and really hard-working."

"Emma's advocacy is a work of art, she is a pleasure to watch in action."

Chambers UK 2023/Family/Children/Western Bar

Strengths: "Emma is meticulous in her preparation and particularly skilled in dealing with complex children matters when there are serious allegations of domestic violence or sexual allegations." "She is very thorough, good with clients and makes sensible decisions proportionate to the issues which override the case."

Chambers UK 2022/Family/Children/Western Bar

Strengths: "She is well prepared, good on the law and technicalities, and well liked by clients. She is firm but also sensitive in her approach to the matter, which means she is always well respected by the tribunal." "She is extremely diligent, friendly and hard-working."

Chambers UK 2021/Family/Children/Western Bar

Respected for her advocacy in public and private family law cases. She represents relatives, guardians and local authorities in connection with a vast array of subjects including abuse, violence, injury and abduction. In addition to her work on children matters, she also acts on complex financial remedy cases.

Strengths: "Emma Harman has a great manner with clients and is very thorough in her preparation of cases and attention to detail." "She's incredibly knowledgeable, well prepared and incredibly efficient."

Chambers UK 2020/Family/Matrimonial/Western Bar

"An extremely able junior with a keen eye for the detail of the case." "Very thorough and a superb advocate."

Chambers UK 2019/Family/Matrimonial/Western Bar

Emma Harman has expertise in representing vulnerable clients, with specific expertise in challenging sexual abuse cases and is described as a 'maestro in Children Act matters'. An 'exceptional and incredibly talented barrister'

'Emma is a first-class advocate and meticulous in her preparation for every case. Her written work is outstanding, with superb advocacy skills. Her creative and innovative thinking puts her in a class of her own.'

Legal 500 2025/Family: Children and Domestic Violence/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit- Tier 1

'Emma has an encyclopedic knowledge when it comes to child arrangement orders in domestic abuse contexts. She offers creativity for clients and sees subtle features in coercive control cases that many can't. Her judgment is spot on and her advocacy is a work of art. She has a very quick wit and navigates her way through the most difficult of cases with great humour and warmth.'

Legal 500 2024/Family: Children and Domestic Violence/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit- Tier 1

Emma Harman is 'a highly skilled advocate' who is 'excellent at getting to grips with difficult and complex cases'.

'Emma approaches every case with a professional, calm and empathetic outlook, and her attention to detail shines through in all she does. She is fastidious in achieving the best possible outcome for her clients. Her representation ensures that the client's voice is heard clearly throughout the proceedings. She provides clear and concise advice.'

Legal 500 2023/Child Law (Public and Private)/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit- Tier 1

'Emma is extremely client focused, approachable and well-organised. She focuses on the key issues in a case, is always well-prepared and thinks outside of the box in order to progress the client's case.'

Legal 500 2022/Child Law (Public and Private)/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

'She is always extremely professional and works very hard on every case. She prepares cases to the minute detail and works with the instructing solicitor. She will always be in constant communication where she is covering a long length hearing and maintains an interest even after her involvement in the case has ended. She is approachable and very good with clients. Fantastic that she also participates in the Direct Access scheme.'

Legal 500 2021/Child Law (Public and Private)/Leading Juniors/Western Circuit

'Efficient, meticulous, and knowledgeable.'

Legal 500 2020/Family and children law/Leading juniors

'She has particular expertise in working with clients who have learning difficulties.'

Legal 500 2018/19/Family and children law/Leading juniors

'She has the makings of a future silk.'

Legal 500 2017/Family and children law/Leading juniors

"Emma knew every fine detail, case notes and it was evident that she had spent time, emailing for more information and questioning to make sure our evidence was as sound as it could be. Within her cross examination she was clever in her questioning, building and layering the picture to help us evidence our case. Emma was engaging, professional and a pleasure to work with. She is very much liked by all the Social Workers here and now we have used her for us we will be using her again."

Amy Bartram, Borough of Poole, 2019

" One of my Social Workers said 'how can any parent lose if they have Emma Harman.'

Amy Bartram, Borough of Poole, 2019

"Emma was fantastic and so on the ball, and in my opinion took control of the opposition barrister and the outcome of the matter. I would recommend her to anyone without hesitation."

Client, 2014

Academic qualifications

- BVC Inns of Court School of Law
- LLB (Hons) Brunel University
- Jules Thorn Scholar

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Recorder (Family, Western Circuit)
- Part-time Deputy District Judge on the Western Circuit (Civil and Family)

Professional bodies

- Family Law Bar Association
- Member of the Western Circuit