



Naomi Webber

Year of Call: 2017

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Education Law

Naomi has a busy education practice, across a range of areas of law and a variety of jurisdictions. She is ranked in the Legal 500 as a Leading Junior for Education law. She regularly acts for and advises parents, students, schools, universities and local authorities. Her experience includes:

Higher education:

- Drafting pleadings and advising on claims of discrimination, breach of human rights, negligence, and breach of contract in the County Court
- Appearing in interim application hearings in the County Court (including an interim injunction)
- Advising a university on a series of ongoing consumer rights claims brought by students (led by Michael Tomlinson KC)
- Representing a university at a trial on claims of breach of contract and breach of human rights (settled at door of court).

Schools and FE colleges:

- Drafting pleadings and advising on claims of discrimination against schools and further education colleges in the County Court (including race, religious and transgender discrimination)
- Acting for parents and schools in disability discrimination final hearings in the First-tier Tribunal and Upper Tribunal.

Independent schools: Drafting pleadings and advising on breach of contract claims for and against independent schools.

Local authorities:

- Advising local authorities on policy decisions in relation to school admissions
- Clerking school admissions panels and independent review panels (school exclusions)
- Providing training on school admissions and exclusions law.

Naomi also has extensive experience of employment law claims in the education sector, including:

- Representing peripatetic music teachers in complex holiday pay claims (including as junior counsel in the Supreme Court in *Harpur Trust v Brazel* [2022] UKSC 21 (led by Mathew Gullick KC))
- Advising a university on whether a former employee held a protected philosophical belief under the Equality Act 2010
- Achieving settlement for a school in a highly sensitive unfair dismissal and sex discrimination claim
- Successfully applying for a deposit order on behalf of a school in relation to weak discrimination claims.

Prior to pupillage, Naomi worked as a research assistant at the University of Oxford, examining the effect of the 2012 changes

to the law of school exclusions.

Naomi has a particular interest in religion and education and wrote her masters' dissertation on whether children have a right to a secular education.

Publications

- Lucinda Ferguson and Naomi Webber, School Exclusion and the Law: A Literature Review and Scoping Survey of Practice (Department of Education, University of Oxford, January 2015).

Recommendations

"A fantastic counsel, she is knowledgeable and experienced."

Chambers UK 2025/Employment/South Eastern Bar

Strengths: "Naomi Webber's relatively junior call belies an incredibly capable, strong and diligent advocate."
"Naomi is able to get to the core of the issues involved in complex cases to achieve the desired result."

Chambers UK 2024/Employment/South Eastern Bar

Strengths: "Naomi was really commercial with what we needed and did it quickly, which was a large part of what allowed us to attack and ultimately settle."

Chambers UK 2023/Employment/South Eastern Bar

Naomi Webber is ranked as a Rising Start in the **Legal 500 2025**/Employment/South Eastern Circuit

'Naomi has the ability to explain fairly technical aspects of employment law clearly, thoroughly and without unnecessary jargon.'

Legal 500 2024/Employment/Rising stars/South Eastern Circuit

'Naomi is excellent – she is extremely thorough and capable. She is highly approachable and has excellent attention to detail.'

Rising star Naomi Webber is 'an incredibly capable, strong, and diligent barrister' and successfully represented an employer in direct and indirect sex discrimination claims relating to breastfeeding and childcare

Legal 500 2023/Employment/Rising stars/South Eastern Circuit

Academic qualifications

- Bar Professional Training Course, City Law School, 2016-17
- LLM in Law, University College London, 2015-16
- BA Jurisprudence (Law), Worcester College, University of Oxford, 2011-2014

Scholarships

- Inner Temple Exhibition Award, 2016

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Attorney General C Panel
- Employment Law Appeal Advice Scheme (ELAAS)

Professional bodies

- Constitutional and Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Education Law Association (ELAS)
- Employment Lawyers Association (ELA)
- Employment Law Bar Association (ELBA)
- Industrial Law Society (ILS)