

Kate Yeomans

Year of Call: 2007
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Overview

Family barrister Kate Yeomans is an experienced and tenacious advocate with a track record over fifteen years regularly representing applicants and respondents at all stages of family law proceedings, including multi-day fact-find and final hearings. She joined 3PB in September 2022 and is now developing a family finance practice as well.

Kate acts on behalf of local authorities, parents, children's guardians, competent children and intervenors in a wide range of cases:

- Chronic neglect
- Drafting advices and threshold documents
- Drug and alcohol abuse (including FDAC proceedings)
- Adoption
- Special Guardianship
- Inflicted injuries
- Domestic Violence
- Child arrangements disputes, including intractable contact disputes
- National and International Relocation
- Parental Alienation

Kate is adept at building a rapport with clients swiftly, to ensure that they feel at ease and have confidence in her representation. Whilst maintaining an ability to empathise with her clients over issues that are important to them, she never shies away from delivering robust advice.

Whilst recognising the benefits of negotiation and compromise, Kate is a determined and forthright advocate who is always willing and prepared to fight for her clients.

Outside of her busy career at the Bar, Kate enjoys a young family and her main sporting interest of horse-riding; and has competed with two of her horses. She also enjoys running and is a die-hard Harry Potter fan.

Family

Family barrister Kate Yeomans has fifteen years advocacy experience representing applicants and respondents at all stages of

family law proceedings, including multi-day fact-find and final hearings. In addition to children and care cases, she is now developing a family finance practice as well.

Reported cases:

Re C (Interim threshold not crossed) [2019] EWFC B5 (15 February 2019): on behalf of a grandfather, Kate successfully opposed the local authority's application for an interim care order, where the plan was to remove the subject child from the care of her client for the duration of proceedings. Kate successfully persuaded the Court that interim threshold had not been crossed, thus avoiding the need for public law orders and ensuring that the subject child remained in his grandfather's care.

Northamptonshire County Council v M, L, H, L, & N and E ((originally Re H-L (Summary Dismissal of Care Proceedings) [2019] EWCA Civ 704): following the conclusion of an 8-day Fact-Finding Hearing (which followed the Court of Appeal decision cited above), Kate's client (the mother) was exonerated from having caused any of the inflicted injuries to her daughter and serious findings were made against the intervenor. As a result, Kate invited the local authority to withdraw their application for public law orders altogether and the case against her client was dismissed in its entirety.

Articles

Risk, caution and the unintended consequences of "safety first".

Kate Yeomans reflects on a growing unease among practitioners that in private children law cases involving allegations of domestic abuse or substance misuse, the system increasingly errs so far on the side of caution that it risks abandoning balance, fairness, and – crucially – the child's welfare. This unease is particularly acute in cases involving fathers.

View Article

Recommendations

"Kate is a tenacious advocate who strives to achieve the best possible outcome for her client. Kate is always on hand to discuss the case and goes above and beyond with her preparation. Kate is extremely friendly and personable and creates a fantastic rapport with clients." - **Instructing solicitor**

"A professional and diligent advocate, who has an ability to think on her feet. She also has a reputation for being able to put particularly vulnerable and distressed clients at ease quickly."

Academic qualifications

- Nottingham Law School, Bar Vocational Course
- Nottingham Trent University, Bachelor of Laws (LLB)

Professional bodies

- Family Law Bar Association
- Midland Circuit
- Gray's Inn

Direct Access

Kate Yeomans is qualified to accept instructions directly from members of the public and professional clients under the Direct Public Access scheme.