

Dorian Day

Year of Call: 1987
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Family

Public Law Care and Adoption

Dorian is highly experienced in complex public law cases under the children and adoption legislation. Dorian thrives and excels were there are allegations of the death of a child (parent or carer), very serious non-accidental physical injury, sexual abuse and trafficking of children. Dorian has particularly concentrated his work in cases involving complex medical issues including FII.

Dorian is also very well renowned for cases where there are jurisdictional orders involving the inherent jurisdiction and wardship and where there are international cross-border jurisdictional issues.

He provides comprehensive advice on all aspects of international family law, inheritance, and property matters. He is frequently instructed as a court expert, offering specialist opinions on multi-jurisdictional issues and the implementation of court orders and likely outcomes.

Private Law Children and Domestic Abuse

Dorian has broad and extensive expertise in all aspects of private law children disputes. In particular he is reputed for his representation of children in such disputes. Dorian is particularly sought after for his advice and representation in cases involving international relocation and abduction of children. Dorian has experience of International Law regarding the USA in areas of Immigration and Mirror Child Arrangements Orders, and change. Furthermore he provides comprehensive advice on all aspects of international family law, inheritance, and property matters. He is frequently instructed as a court expert, offering specialist opinions on multi-jurisdictional issues and the implementation of court orders and likely outcomes.

Dorian offers the ability and duality to advise and represent parties on both the welfare and financial aspects of children cases.

Family Finance Team

Dorian is a specialist in Financial Remedy matters - his skills encompass driven and guided practical advice to problem solving and detailed preparation and cross-examination in all aspects of financial work.

Dorian has experience in conducting claims where there are assets of substance [up to £40 million], trust assets, business interests, intervening parties, cryptocurrency, a foreign or jurisdictional element, estates and also where there are aspects of conduct or asset dissipation raised before or within the proceedings. Dorian also conducts cases involving inheritance provision, TOLATA and Schedule 1 Children Act Claims.

Judicial Review

Dorian undertakes all aspects of judicial review work particularly in the field of children, families, and decisions by Local

Authorities particularly regarding funding and involving policy considerations.

In particular Dorian has regularly challenged and advised Local Authorities in relation to decisions pertaining to special guardianship/residence allowances and funding decisions.

Dorian's experience and expertise extends to all forms of tribunal challenge including disciplinary decisions made by the police and other professional bodies.

Abuse Claims

Dorian has long acted for abuse complainants across the country. He covers all strategies of sexual abuse, neglect and death in cases including religious orders, in children's homes and schools, in foster care, teachers, families, in sporting and voluntary and media organisations.

He has acted for vulnerable adults and children abused in long term care and for learning disabled children and young people, as well as in claims against local authorities for failing to remove children at risk.

Cases of Note and Interest:

- Wood & Anor v Fleming [2026] EWCA Civ 780 (25 June 2026)
- Wood & Ors v Fleming [2026] EWHC 490 (Ch) (26 January 2026)
- Jake (A Child), In the Matter Of [2025] EWHC 2230 (Fam) (27 August 2025)
- London Borough of Hounslow v AB & Ors Neutral Citation Number[2026] EWHC 2648 (Fam) (12 May 2025)
- RE A, B AND C (CHILD ARRANGEMENTS: FINAL ORDER AT DISPUTE RESOLUTION APPOINTMENT) [2025] EWCA Civ 55
- Ward v Fleming [2024] EWHC 1421 (Ch) (14 November 2024)
- Julie Richardson Limited & Banbury Heights Limited v Oxfordshire County Council [2024] EWHC 3233 (KB)
- Wood & Anor v Fleming [2024] EWHC 2398 (Ch) (13 August 2024)
- The Mother & Anor v Shropshire Council & Anor [2024] EWHC 344 (Fam)
- GK and LK v EE [2023] EWCOP 49
- P (A Child: Fair Hearing) [2023] EWCA Civ 215
- BSA v NVT [2021] EWHC 2202 (Fam)
- J&H&Ors [2022] EWHC 862 (Fam)
- Z (A Child) (Surrogacy) [2022] EWFC 18
- Re CD [2021] EWFC 112
- J v J [MFPA - Interim Provision] [2021] EWFC 78
- Re G (Abduction: Consent/Discretion) [2021] EWCA Civ 139
- Z (INTERIM CARE ORDER) - [2020] EWCA Civ 1755
- A London Borough -v- N [2020] EWHC 2857 (Fam)
- BSA -and- NVT [2020] EWHC 2906 (Fam)
- The Local Authority -V- Mother (1) Father (2) Lucy (By Her Children's Guardian) And Belinda - [2020] EWHC 2801 (Fam)
- Re Y (Children in Care: Change of Nationality) [2020] EWCA Civ 1038
- C.E. AND N.E. - AND - Hampshire County Council [2020] IECA 201
- GC v A County Council & Ors [2020] EWCA Civ 848
- Hampshire County Council v CE and NE [2020] IECA 100. Irish Court Of Appeal 9.4.20
- KT v JB and WB (A Child) [2020] EWFC 14
- Cases A, B and C (Adoption: Notification of Fathers and relatives) [2020] EWCA Civ 41

- A Local Authority -and- M, F, P and T [2019] EWFC 33
- Re S (No. 3) (Care Proceedings) (Article 56: Placement in the Republic of Ireland) [2019] EWFC 36
- Hampshire County council v C.E. & anor [2019] IEHC 340
- In re S (A Child) (No. 2) [2019] 1 WLR 5045
- Hampshire County Council v CE and Others [2019] 1 FLR 636
- Re S (Care proceedings: Article 15 Second transfer) [2018] EWHC 3054 (Fam) (29 October 2018)
- H (Children) [2018] EWFC 61 (18 October 2018) ([2018] EWFC 61
- Hampshire County Council v C.E. & Ors [2018] IECA 365
- Hampshire County Council v C.E. and N.E. (Urgent preliminary ruling procedure - Jurisdiction, recognition and enforcement of judgments in matters of parental responsibility - International child abduction - Judgment) [2018] EUECJ C-325/18PPU & UK =[2018] WLR(D) 584CFA (Ireland) v F [2018] EWHC 939 (Fam) (12 April 2018) ([2018] EWHC 939 (Fam)
- AK, Re Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 [2017] EWHC 1154 (Fam) (28 July 2017) ([2017] 4 WLR 169, [2017] EWHC 1154 (Fam), [2017] WLR(D) 617; From England and Wales High Court (Family Division)
- N (Children: Welfare Decision), Re [2016] EWFC 44 (23 September 2016) ([2016] EWFC 44; From England and Wales Family Court
- Local Authority X v HI & Ors [2016] EWHC 1123 (Fam) (12 May 2016) ([2016] EWHC 1123 (Fam), [2016] Fam Law 802, [2017] 1 FLR 1362; From England and Wales High Court (Family Division)
- Re N (Children) SC [2016] UKSC 15F and J (Children) [2015] EWFC B231 (11 December 2015) ([2015] EWFC B231; From England and Wales Family Court Decisions (other Judges)
- N (Children : Adoption: Jurisdiction) [2015] EWCA Civ 1112 (02 November 2015) ([2015] EWCA Civ 1112, [2015] Fam Law 1444, [2015] WLR(D) 436, [2016] 1 All ER 1086, [2016] 1 FCR 217, [2016] 1 FLR 621, [2016] 2 WLR 713; From England and Wales Court of Appeal (Civil Division) Decisions
- F and J (Children) [2015] EWFC B231
- E, A And L (Children) [2014] EWHC B22 (Fam) (13 June 2014) ([2014] EWHC B22 (Fam); From England and Wales High Court (Family Division) Decisions
- E, A And L (Children) [2014] EWHC B21 (Fam) (24 May 2013) ([2014] EWHC B21 (Fam); From England and Wales High Court (Family Division) Decisions
- London Borough of Lewisham v D & Ors [2010] EWHC 1239 (Fam) (29 March 2010) ([2010] EWHC 1239 (Fam), [2010] Fam Law 795, [2011] 1 FLR 908; From England and Wales High Court (Family Division) Decisions
- London Borough of Lewisham v D & Ors [2010] EWHC 1238 (Fam) (17 February 2010) ([2010] EWHC 1238 (Fam), [2010] Fam Law 794, [2011] 1 FLR 895; From England and Wales High Court (Family Division) Decisions
- H (Child), Re [2003] EWCA Civ 1629 (18 November 2003) ([2003] EWCA Civ 1629, [2004] 2 WLR 419, [2004] Fam 89; From England and Wales Court of Appeal (Civil Division) Decisions
- H (A Child), Re [2002] EWCA Civ 469 (8 March 2002) ([2002] EWCA Civ 469; From England and Wales Court of Appeal (Civil Division) Decisions

Articles and Publications

"Pay day for the silent army of Special Guardians" - The Ramifications of the Decision in B v LB Lewisham - Family Law 2010

Recommendations

Dorian Day is an experienced advocate with a strong childcare practice. He frequently acts in matters concerning serious physical abuse, as well as non-accidental injury cases.

Strengths: "Nothing seems to faze Dorian and he instils confidence in the client."
"Dorian is an extremely robust advocate. Nothing is too complex for him and he quickly grasps the sensitivities of any case."

"A fabulous, caring barrister with high level of advocacy skills and much liked by clients."

Chambers UK 2025/Family/Children/Midlands Bar

Strengths: "He brings something unique in terms of commitment and expertise."
"Dorian is a really robust advocate and commanding presence in the courtroom."
"Dorian is a skilled advocate and often achieves fantastic outcomes in non-accidental injury matters."

Chambers UK 2024/Family/Children/Midlands Bar

Strengths: "He is a very strong advocate and his cross-examination is second to none."
"Dorian quickly grasps complex issues and is an extremely tenacious advocate. Dorian regularly thinks outside the box and provides an exceptional level of service."
"Dorian has a wealth of experience and his advocacy skills are to be admired."

Chambers UK 2023/Family /Children/Midlands Bar

"He's absolutely brilliant and has impeccable knowledge." "He's a very robust advocate."

Chambers UK 2022/Family /Children/Midlands Bar

An experienced advocate with a strong childcare practice. He frequently acts in matters concerning serious physical and sexual abuse, as well as non-accidental injury cases.
Strengths: "An excellent all-rounder with an attention to detail." "He is ferocious. His medical knowledge is second to none."

Chambers UK 2021/Family /Children/Midlands Bar

An experienced advocate with a strong childcare practice, who also represents his clients in financial remedy matters. He frequently acts in matters concerning serious physical and sexual abuse, as well as non-accidental injury cases.
Strengths: "Dorian Day's strengths include his presence and gravitas in the courtroom and in negotiations, and his attention to detail when drafting."

Chambers UK 2020/Family /Children/Midlands Bar

"A very well prepared and skilful advocate."

Chambers UK 2019/Family/Matrimonial/Midlands Bar

Strengths: "He is an excellent all-rounder, who is calm under pressure and has a great manner in court." "An experienced and ferocious litigator."

Chambers UK 2018/Family/Matrimonial/Midlands Bar

Professional bodies

- FLBA
- BAA
- ALBA