



# Sara Lewis KC

**Year of Call:** 1996

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## Overview

Sara Lewis KC is one of the foremost family silks in the UK, described as "the KC you want on your case" (Legal 500, 2026). She joined 3PB in January 2026 and was shortlisted as Family Law KC of the Year at LexisNexis Family Law Awards 2025. She also served as her former set's Head of Chambers from August 2023 until November 2025.

Ranked as a Leading Silk by Legal 500 since she became a KC in 2021, Sara is commonly one of the first choice for public law cases involving the most serious types of non-accidental injury, such as those involving significant head trauma and death. She also has considerable experience of acting for those with complex psychiatric issues such as FII.

Sara is revered for her meticulous preparation, the quality of her court performance and her robust advocacy when necessary. Legal 500 describe her as "extremely thorough", "always impeccably prepared" and her "courtroom manner is unfaltering, and cross-examination is bespoke and effective."

Sara is regularly instructed to represent parents and guardians, renowned for her proactive and user-friendly approach, providing plain-speaking and straightforward advice at every stage of a case. Noted by the Legal 500 for being "approachable" and having "an exceptional rapport with clients", Sara likes to build a productive working relationship with both lay and professional clients.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Sara was a neuropsychologist undertaking both clinical and research work therefore has particular interest and expertise in matters involving complex medical evidence.

### Reported cases

[A Local Authority v A & Ors \[2025\] EWFC 295 \(B\)](#)

[A LOCAL AUTHORITY v BB & Ors \[2022\] EWFC 105](#)

[RE N \(A Child\) \(Death of Sibling\) \[2025\] EWFC 325,](#)

[A Local authority v Mother & Ors \[2022\] EWFC 172](#)

[East Riding of Yorkshire Council v C: Re S \(fact finding\) \(2020\) EWFC 71](#)

[Lancashire CC v M, F and C \(2020\) EWFC 43](#)

[Re Y \(Fact Finding\) \[2018\] EWFC B20](#)

[H \(A Child\) \[2018\] EWHC 610 \(Fam\) \(07 March 2018\)](#)

[Cheshire East Borough Council v PN & Ors \(Flawed Local Authority Assessments\) \[2017\] EWFC 20 \(03 March 2017\)](#)

## Recommendations

"Sara is the KC you want on your case for any complex care proceedings involving non-accidental injury; she is the full package. Her knowledge of the area is impeccable, her research is deep and thorough, her client manner is sympathetic, but firm and realistic, and her advocacy really is exceptional." **Legal 500, 2026**

"Sara is a very robust advocate who is not afraid to rock the boat where necessary. Sara has a medical background which is immensely helpful in cases of non-accidental injury and means her ability to cross-examine medical experts is second-to-none." **Legal 500, 2025**

"Sara is an exceptional silk and has a wealth of experience, and she is extremely thorough in her preparation. She has a store of knowledge and is incredibly well thought of and respected in cases involving serious allegations of non-accidental injury. Her courtroom manner is unfaltering, and cross-examination is bespoke and effective." **Legal 500, 2024**

"Sara is always impeccably prepared for all her cases. She has an excellent rapport with clients and is extremely approachable. She cross-examines witnesses, particularly experts, with skill and care and is particularly impressive in cases where complex medical analyses are required. She is diligent, hard-working and demonstrates real integrity, and is an extremely impressive advocate." **Legal 500, 2023**

"Sara is extremely empathetic, and her client care is second to none. Her written work is of a high quality, and she is particularly skilful in cross-examining witnesses." **Legal 500, 2022**

"Very quickly gets to grips with complex medical issues." **Legal 500, 2021**

"A vigorous advocate in court; clients like her." **Legal 500, 2020**

"Regularly handles care cases where there are concerns over the mental wellbeing of parents." **Legal 500, 2019**

"Singled out for childcare matters." **Legal 500, 2018**

"Sara Lewis commended for childcare work." **Legal 500, 2017**

"An incredibly hard-working barrister who strives to do all that she can to put the best interests of her clients forward, no matter how hard the battle may be. A dedicated barrister who can be relied on for her honest and expert advice." **Instructing Solicitor**

## Academic qualifications

- M.A (Hons)
- CPE
- BVC, Commendation

## Professional qualifications & appointments

- Family Law Mediator, accredited by Regents College SPC, 2003
- Sports Resolutions Panel of Arbitrators, Chairpersons List
- Assistant Coroner, Manchester (City), 2009-2018

- Queen's Counsel (now King's Counsel), 2021-

## **Professional bodies**

- Member of Resolution
- Member of Family Law Bar Association

## **Direct Access**

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

# Expertise

## Family

Sara Lewis KC is one of the top family barristers in the UK and was shortlisted for Family Silk of the Year at the National Family Law Awards 2025.

## Public Law Children

Sara Lewis KC is a renowned care expert and silk, with a national reputation as one of the foremost specialists in complex Public Law Children cases. Sara has vast experience at all levels, acting for parents and guardians at Circuit, High Court and Appellate Court level.

Sara undertakes cases involving the most serious types of non-accidental injury and is regularly instructed to represent parties in cases where non-accidental head injury is alleged. She has considerable experience of acting for those with complex psychiatric issues such as FII.

Before coming to the Bar, Sara was a neuropsychologist, undertaking both clinical and research work and has therefore a particular interest and expertise in cases involving complex medical evidence, mental health issues as well as problems associated with addiction and cognitive impairment.

## Private Law Children

Sara Lewis KC advises and represents parents in the most sensitive and contentious proceedings resulting from relationship breakdown. Known nationally for her fearless and tenacious advocacy, she maintains a client-focused approach that prioritises their unique needs and concerns. A natural problem-solver, she adopts a strategic approach, working closely with both her professional allies and clients to achieve the best outcomes tailored to their individual situations.

Sara is happy to accept instructions for all types of work within the field of Private Law Children and has particular interest in the following:

- **Residence and Contact Disputes** : Managing ongoing conflicts that disrupt children's stability and well-being, including those involving serious allegations of mistreatment or false claims.
- **Serious Domestic Abuse** : Providing support and advocacy in cases involving physical, sexual, and emotional abuse.
- **LGBTQ+ Parenting** : Advocating for the rights and recognition of diverse family structures.
- **Prohibited Steps and Specific Issues Orders** : Resolving critical disputes over children's education, religious upbringing, medical treatment, schooling, passports, and internal relocation.
- **Leave to Remove from Jurisdiction** : Navigating complex cases involving the relocation of children.

Sara recognises, where possible and appropriate, the importance of adopting a collaborative approach in order to reduce conflict. To that end, Sara is known for her patience and perseverance in resolving the most intractable of disputes.

## Professional Discipline

Sara Lewis KC is a member of Sports Resolutions' "Panel of Arbitrators – Chairpersons List", where she has been appointed to conduct investigations into safeguarding concerns and to hear appeals against disciplinary decisions made by national sporting bodies.

As part of her regulatory and disciplinary practice, Sara has been regularly instructed to present cases on behalf of the General Medical Council before The Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service.

Sara has also been instructed to represent interested persons at inquests, including bereaved families and Health Authorities. She was Assistant Coroner for the City of Manchester from 2009-2018.