

Stephanie Churchill

Year of Call: 2026

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Overview

Stephanie Churchill is a pupil barrister who commenced her twelve-month pupillage at 3PB in October 2026. Based in the firm's Winchester office, Stephanie's pupillage is focused on crime and regulatory crime. Deeply committed to practising criminal law, an area she has been closely involved with over the past ten years, Stephanie will be both defending and prosecuting cases, and intends to develop a specialism in RASSO.

Prior to joining 3PB, Stephanie was an Operational Manager for The YOU Trust, a charity providing specialist support to survivors of domestic violence and abuse. Before that, she worked as an IDVA, where she regularly attended both criminal and civil courts to support clients through what was often a very traumatic process.

Throughout her time at The YOU Trust, Stephanie worked closely with Hampshire Constabulary to guide victims through the criminal justice system and was also a Scrutiny Panel Member on the CPS Wessex External Consultation Group on Violence Against Women and Girls where she critically reviewed cases involving Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO), Non-Fatal Strangulation, Stalking, and Controlling and Coercive Behaviour. This work gave her an excellent understanding of prosecutorial decision-making, evidential challenges, and victim engagement.

Before her work with The YOU Trust, Stephanie completed a doctoral degree at the University of Reading. Her PhD research focused on UN-endorsed military interventions and the implementation of the 'Responsibility to Protect' doctrine in addressing mass atrocity crimes, including genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. This international crime research project was fully funded by a Leverhulme Doctoral Scholarship.

Drawing on this unique background, Stephanie brings a combination of resilience, determination, sensitivity, and intellectual ability to her role as a barrister.

Outside of work, Stephanie enjoys spending time with family and friends, playing tennis with her daughter, reading novels and historical non-fiction, and going to the theatre and cinema.

Academic qualifications

- Bar Practice Course, Distinction, University of Law, 2024-2026
- Postgraduate Diploma in Law, Distinction, University of Law, 2022-2024
- PhD, Graduate Institute of Political and International Studies, University of Reading, 2009-2015
- Masters, Distinction, International Relations, King's College, London, 2008-2009
- BA (Hons), International Relations & Politics, First-Class Honours, University of Portsmouth, 2005-2008

Scholarships

- Denise Pannick Scholarship, Gray's Inn, 2024/25
- Career Changer Scholarship, University of Law, 2024/25
- Leverhulme Doctoral Scholarship, The Leverhulme Trust, 2009-2012
- Jalil Haddad Prize for Multi-Ethnic Reconciliation, awarded for Dissertation, University of Portsmouth, 2008

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Distinction for the SafeLives IDVA Qualification, OCNLR Level 3, 2023
- Counselling Skills, Activate Learning, Reading College, 2022
- Level 1 Award for Trade Union Representatives, South Thames College, 2020

Professional bodies

- Honourable Society of Gray's Inn