



# Aimee Fox

**Year of Call:** 2007

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## Overview

Aimee Fox is a specialist in Education and Family Law. She handles an established practice specialising in financial remedies and private law proceedings. She is often instructed for her expertise in education law (SEN) to assist on related Children Act matters. Aimee's financial remedy work has included a variety of high value disputes. She continues to be in constant demand for her expertise in complex and highly sensitive cases.

Aimee has extensive experience in tribunals relating to EHC Plans. She has also been successful in a number of judicial reviews and appeals to the Upper Tribunal. Aimee's expertise is such that she is often invited to train other practitioners and was recently invited to speak on Education Law at the Annual Conference of Chartered Paediatric Physiotherapists at the Emirates Stadium.

## Recommendations

*'She is extremely approachable, thorough, pragmatic and realistic.'*

**Legal 500 2020/Leading Individual – Education**

*'Recommended for cases involving children with special educational needs.'*

**Legal 500 2020/Leading Individual – Family/Matrimonial Midlands**

*"I have already had an email from the client saying how wonderful you were and would just like to thank you again"* – **Partner at law firm**

*"Aimee is thorough and determined"* – **Partner at leading law firm**

*"An excellent outcome! Our client said that you were fantastic at court and is happy with the outcome"* – **Associate Solicitor**

*"A brilliant outcome!"* – **Associate Solicitor**

## Academic qualifications

- College of Europe Bruges: LLM European Community Law
- Inns of Court School of Law: BVC, Very Competent
- Queen's University Belfast: LLB Law and French, 2:1
- Université Lyon III, Diplome d'Etudes Françaises

## **Scholarships**

- Lincoln's Inn European Education Award
- Sunley Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- QUB Award for Distinction in Oral French

## **Professional bodies**

- Education Law Association
- Lincoln's Inn Denning Society
- Bar Free Representation Unit
- Family Law Bar Association

# Expertise

## Education

Aimee has a busy education law practice and regularly appears in the First-tier Tribunal. She acts for and advises all parties including, local authorities, schools, parents and young people. Aimee was recently invited to speak on education law at the National Conference of Chartered Paediatric Therapists 2018.

Aimee has also been instructed on a number of judicial review matters. She was successful in defending a local authority in a claim for judicial review brought pursuant to section 19(1) Education Act 1996.

Other examples of matters Aimee has been involved with include:

- Discrimination and equalities claims
- Special educational needs
- Prosecutions for non-attendance at school (including in the Crown Court and High Court)
- Clerking Permanent Exclusion Review Panels
- Appeals concerning permanent exclusion
- School inspection
- Appeals against decisions of the First-Tier Tribunal
- Disputes concerning Local Offers
- Advice and representation in judicial review

### Notable Cases

#### **DH and GH v Staffordshire County Council** [2018] UKUT 49 (AAC)

This case concerned an appeal from the First Tier Tribunal. The Appellants argued that the Tribunal had misdirected itself on the law in respect of issuing an Education, Health and Care Plan and the ability of a mainstream school to make relevant provision. This case involved issues which Aimee's opponent, David Wolfe QC, described to Upper Tribunal Judge Jacobs at the oral hearing as "complex and novel". For more information click [here](#).

#### **DS, R (on the application of) v Wolverhampton City Council** [2017] EWHC 1660 (Admin)

Aimee Fox successfully represented the local authority against an allegation that there had been a failure by it to provide suitable education for DS in breach of its duty under section 19(1) of the Education Act 1996. DS had not returned to school after a contested incident during which he had returned home in a state of undress. Mr Justice Garnham went on to consider whether, if a breach had been found, the local authority's alternative provision would have been suitable. For more information click [here](#), for the Baillii report click [here](#) and for the Local Government Lawyer article click [here](#).

## Family

### Finance

Aimee has extensive experience family finance and cohabitation disputes. Aimee is often instructed to represent parties where there are arguments involving inherited wealth or pre- or post-relationship acquired assets. Aimee has been instructed on cases where there are disputes concerning companies, trusts, partnerships, third party interests, non-disclosure, inheritance and pre-acquired wealth.

Aimee has been involved with a number of more complex matters including cases involving the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 and personal injury awards. She has also been able to call upon her expertise in the law of special educational needs (SEN) to

assist in advising separating spouses whose children require bespoke accommodation or additional care.

Aimee is also happy to provide representation in private FDRs and Early Neutral Evaluations.

**Cases:**

Recent cases Aimee has been instructed on include:

**W v W:** A civil partnership dispute in which the assets were worth several million pounds and included a large property portfolio and a very high value share portfolio. Arguments also involved financial liabilities abroad.

**B v S:** Financial remedy proceedings with concurrent proceedings in the Crown Court with the matrimonial assets at risk because of a Proceeds of Crime Act application by the Crown Prosecution Service.

**D v D:** Financial remedy proceedings made complicated as a result of the application having been made some 15 years after the end of the marriage.

**F v F:** Final hearing of committal application for failure to comply with orders and provide disclosure in financial remedy proceedings.

## Private Law Children, Injunction and Domestic Abuse

Aimee regularly appears at all stages of private law disputes including arguments about special guardianship orders. She represents parents, children and grandparents.

Aimee is regularly instructed in complex proceedings involving children which include allegations of physical and emotional abuse, sexual abuse, domestic violence and parental alienation. Aimee is well equipped to handle applications where there has been social work involvement after spending a number of years representing parties in public law care proceedings.

Aimee's expertise in education law allows her to excel in applications involving children with special educational needs (SEN), mental health diagnoses or disability. This allows her to provide advice on applications involving schooling.

Aimee is experienced in representing parties involved in disputes where there is expert evidence. In her areas of practice, she has cross-examined psychologists including educational psychologists, psychiatrists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, physiotherapists as well as teachers.

She has experience of internal and international relocation cases and has provided training to solicitors on pursuing and defending relocation applications. Aimee has an LLM in European Law which makes her particularly adept in this area. Prior to joining the Bar she completed prestigious internships at the British Institute of International & Comparative Law and the International Bar Association.

Aimee has been commended for her personable manner and client focused approach. She always seeks to find pragmatic and cost-effective solutions for her clients.

**Cases:**

Recent cases Aimee has been instructed on include:

**H v H:** International relocation case to Romania.

**P v B v P:** Private law proceedings in which the child had been subject to lengthy litigation and numerous appeals in Poland. Jurisdictional issues arose as well as consideration of the legal effect of orders made in Poland.

**D v H v I:** Lengthy private law proceedings with arguments on parental alienation and residence as well as special guardianship and the applicability of a section 91(14) barring order. There was involvement from NYAS.

**A v C:** Appeal in private law proceedings arising from the court's decision to transfer residence.

**D v D:** Private law proceedings requiring the court's determination in respect of the child's medical treatment and schooling.

**B v R:** Private law proceedings involving multiple experts from various fields.