

Susan Grocott

1986 Middle Temple, 2008 Kings Counsel, familyclerks@deanscourt.co.uk



Education	Professional Associations	Appointments
Oulder Hill Community School	Family Law Bar Association, Joint Chair Manchester Committee	Co-Chair, Legal Services Committee
Exeter College, Oxford BA (Oxon)	Northern Circuit Administrative Law Association	Vice Chair, Ethics Committee
Inns of Court School of Law	Manchester Family Justice Council – FLBA rep	Head of the Family Team
		2004 Recorder (Northern Circuit) – Crime & Family (Public and private Law)
		2011 Deputy High Court Judge, Family Division

Areas of Specialism

Children (Public)

Children (Private)

Financial Remedies and Family Properties

Child Abduction and Leave to Remove

Cohabitation Disputes

Judicial Review

Financial Orders for Children

Private FDR

Early Neutral Evaluation (ENE)

Profile

Susan is a distinguished King's Counsel, widely recognised as a leading specialist in family law, particularly in children matters. Ranked Band 1 by Chambers & Partners, she is praised for her forensic attention to detail and compelling and effective advocacy. "She is second to none," says Chambers and Partners and "her ability to digest large volumes of documentation from a forensic perspective never ceases to impress."

As well as her practice at the Bar, Susan also sits as a Recorder and is authorised to sit as a Deputy High Court Judge, allowing her to draw on her judicial skills to offer a unique insight into complex and challenging cases, and novel issues of law. Susan's experience as a judge makes her an obvious choice to act as an Early Neutral Evaluator, Mediator, or Private FDR Evaluator.

Public Law Children

Susan continues to be involved in some of the most complex public children law cases acting both alone and as a leader for local authorities, parents, and children. She is instructed in cases of the utmost seriousness with complex issues of fact and law and is highly sought after for her straightforward yet highly forensic style of advocacy. Susan is highly skilled in dealing with vulnerable children and adults and prides herself on her ability to explain complicated concepts in an easy and digestible way.

Susan is regularly instructed to provide written advice on areas of policy and procedure in this area.

Susan appears before all levels of Court and was leading counsel for the respondent local authority in S-B Children [2009] UKSC 17 in the Supreme Court.

Private Law Children

Susan is routinely retained in disputes arising in the context of child arrangement applications. She is experienced in cases involving disputes as to residence, contact, and specific questions concerning schooling, medical treatment, international

mobility, and changes of habitual residence, as well as serious allegations involving coercive conduct, emotional harm, or non-consensual acts

Financial Remedy

Susan maintains a financial remedy practice and is called upon to advise in complex areas of law at all stages of proceedings. Susan's experience as a Recorder makes her an obvious choice for ADR work, including acting as a Private FDR Judge or Early Neutral Evaluator.

Notable Cases

Re R (Care Proceedings: Causation) [2011]

Practice Area: Family

EWHC 1715 (Fam) [2011] 2 FLR 1384

Re S-B (Children) [2009]

Practice Area: Family

UKSC 17 [2010] 1 FLR 1161

Lancashire County Council v R [2008]

Practice Area: Family

EWHC 2959 (Fam) [2010] 1 FLR 387

Re AB (Care Proceedings: Disclosure of Medical Evidence to the Police) [2002]

Practice Area: Family

EWHC 2198 (Fam) [2003] 1 FLR 579

What the Directories say

"An excellent advocate."

Chambers & Partners, 2026

'Susan is a force of nature; she is a highly experienced family silk whose written and oral advocacy is second-to-none. She can grapple with vast amounts of documentation and her legal analysis of the most complex cases is thoroughly impressive.'

Legal 500, 2026

"Susan is a strong and effective silk."

Chambers & Partners, 2025

"She is second to none and her ability to digest large volumes of documentation from a forensic perspective never ceases to impress me."

Chambers & Partners, 2025

"Susan Grocott's expertise is second to none. She has superb advocacy skills and breadth of knowledge in family matters."

Chambers & Partners, 2024

"Susan is a robust opponent. She knows the law well and is not afraid to advance her client's position."

Chambers & Partners, 2024

Susan Grocott handles incredibly complex cases with ease and practicality. She is reassuring, helpful, and grounded. Nothing seems to ruffle her. She is calm, collected and gets to the points in the case.

Chambers & Partners, 2023

Susan is excellent, well prepared, meticulous and approachable.

Chambers & Partners, 2023

She is straight-talking and robust. A no-nonsense lawyer who is always well prepared.

Chambers and Partners, 2022

She has a very straightforward manner that is attractive to clients and judges.

Chambers and Partners, 2021

Susan is clear and concise, and thinks on her feet. She is a real force to be reckoned with.

Chambers and Partners 2020

Has a diverse practice, advising on a range of finance issues in addition to public and private children work. Her caseload includes an emphasis on negligence, serious injury and induced illness. She also handles matters involving child trafficking and sexual abuse. Very astute and meticulous in her preparation.

Chambers and Partners

A tenacious advocate with a very astute legal brain.

Legal 500

Highly recommended for private law children work.

Legal 500

Distils large quantities of complex information to the essential arguments.

Legal 500

Calm under pressure and measured in her delivery.

Legal 500

Applies "assiduous preparation" to high-value family law issues. She is also particularly highly regarded for her knowledge of children law cases.

Chambers UK

Recommended for [her] sensitivity in care cases.

Legal 500

Calls a spade a spade and has a fantastic grasp of issues.

Chambers UK

Has a diverse practice, advising on a range of finance issues in addition to public and private children work. Her caseload includes an emphasis on negligence, serious injuries and induced illness.

Provides robust, pragmatic and client-centric advice. She is a pleasure to work with.

She is very driven to meeting her client's needs and a pleasure to work with.

Chambers UK

Specialise in matrimonial finance and private children law.

Legal 500

Offers no-nonsense advocacy, phenomenal memory and thorough preparation.

Chambers UK

Recommended for childcare matters.

Legal 500

Applauded for her sensible and hard-working attitude.

Chambers UK

Has a diverse practice, advising on a range of finance issues in addition to public and private children work. Her caseload includes an emphasis on negligence, serious injury and induced illness.

A formidable advocate. She has an insightful knowledge about her cases. Calm and reassuring and very able.

Fabulous advocate and leader, who responds quickly to any queries.

Chambers and Partners

A leading practitioner in financial matters and the law relating to children. Instructing solicitors particularly appreciate her straightforward approach to cases.

She would be my first port of call. She is direct and has a down-to-earth approach to things which is not commonly found.

Chambers UK

She was very fair in a difficult situation. She came to a very fair conclusion.

Chambers UK

She talks the same language as her clients, which enables her to forge strong relationships with them.

Chambers UK

In her element with medical issues in childcare proceedings.

Legal 500

Clever, conscientious and dedicated to her work.

Chambers UK

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