

Sasha Watkinson

1998 Lincoln's Inn, watkinson@deanscourt.co.uk



Education

Highworth School
University of Liverpool
Inns of Court School of Law

Professional Associations

Family Law Bar Association
Child Concern
Women In Family Law

Areas of Specialism

Family
Children (Private and Public)
Child Abduction and Leave to Remove

Sasha undertakes public law work of the utmost seriousness, including physical, sexual and emotional abuse, acting for local authorities, parents and children alike.

She was instructed by a local authority to conduct existing care proceedings involving complex legal issues surrounding identification of perpetrators in finding of fact proceedings. She was later led by Susan Grocott KC in both the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in the case now known as *Re S-B* UKSC17 [2010] 1 FLR 1161. She has also been led in High Court care proceedings involving the suspicious death of a child.

Alongside her public law work, Sasha also undertakes complex private law cases involving sexual abuse, implacable hostility and international relocation.

Ranked in Legal 500, 2024 as a Leading Junior.

Notable Cases

Wigan Borough Council v M and Others (Veracity Assessments) [2016] 1 FLR 126

Practice Area: **Family**

Wigan BC v M and Others (Sexual Abuse: Fact Finding) [2015] EWFC 6

Practice Area: **Family**

Re S-B [2010] 1 FLR 1161 (Supreme Court)

Practice Area: **Family**

What the Directories say

Sasha is thorough in preparation, knowledgeable, approachable and incredibly hard working. She keeps instructing solicitors updated throughout the proceedings, seeks further instructions where required and is generally a pleasure to work with. Could not recommend her highly enough.

Legal 500, 2023

Miss Watkinson is extremely thorough, knowledgeable and empathetic. Her advocacy skills are second to none and she has a particular strength at cutting through a case to reduce it to its core principles. She has a particular strength when it comes to cases of fabricated and induced illness, or cases involving serious allegations of abuse, both sexual and physical.

Legal 500, 2021

'A skilled advocate.'

Legal 500, 2020

'Polished, calm and compelling in court.'

Legal 500

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