DEANS COURT CHAMBERS

Annie Sayers

2009 , sayers@deanscourt.co.uk

Education	Professional Associations
LLB (Law), University of Exeter	Family Law Bar Association
Bar Vocational Course (Very Competent), College of Law	Northern Circuit
	Child Concern

Areas of Specialism

- Family
- Children (Private)

Profile

Annie specialises exclusively in family children matters and is regularly instructed in both private law and public law proceedings.

Annie takes a pragmatic and realistic approach to her cases but is a firm negotiator and a robust advocate in court when necessary. She establishes strong working relationships with clients, giving clear advice, and taking account of what is most important to each individual. Annie recognises that an amicable resolution is usually the best outcome and is able to formulate creative solutions tailored to each case.

Private Law: Children

Annie undertakes the full range of private children work including international and domestic applications to relocate, fact-finding hearings and all other section 8 applications. Annie is regularly instructed to represent children through their rule 16.4 Guardians.

Public Law: Children

Annie undertakes a wide range of cases involving physical, emotional and sexual abuse, non-accidental injuries, domestic violence and neglect as a result of drug and/or alcohol abuse, learning and mental health difficulties. She acts for parents, children, extended family members and numerous Local Authorities in care proceedings. Annie works with some of the most vulnerable clients and is highly attuned to their emotional needs. Annie will give robust advice about the merits of a case where necessary but does not shy away from a contest.

Notable Public Law Children cases

Re Y (A Minor) (No 2) (Brussels II Revised: Jurisdiction after Article 15 Transfer: Welfare) [2022] EWFC 69

Annie successfully represented the child in circumstances where the Guardian recommended continued placement with the child's foster carers under a Special Guardianship Order against an application for placement with a family member in Hungary; and a Specific Issue Order to change the child's surname.

The Child & Family Agency (Ireland) v M & Ors [2018] EWHC 1581 (Fam)

Notable Cases

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Practice Area: **Family - Public Law: Children**

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https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWFC/HCJ/2022/69.html

The Child & Family Agency (Ireland) v M & Ors [2018] EWHC 1581 (Fam)

Practice Area: Family - Public Law: Children

https://www.familylaw.co.uk/news_and_comment/the-child-and-family-agency-ireland-v-m-ors-2018-ewhc-1581#.W2LjltQrKt8

What the Directories say

"Annie is excellent and I would think of her first for every complex children case which comes across my desk."
Chambers and Partners 2026

"Annie Sayers is exceptional and willing to go above and beyond."
Chambers and Partners 2026

'Annie excels at reassuring clients and instilling confidence that she is firmly in their corner. Her advocacy is both persuasive and subtly tenacious.'
Legal 500, 2026

"Annie combines sensitive handling of clients with firm advice and robust advocacy."
Chambers and Partners 2025

"She is tactically smart, not afraid to roll her sleeves up and extremely sensible in her counsel."
Chambers and Partners 2025

"She's very user-friendly and very easy to communicate with."
Chambers and Partners 2025

'Annie is incredibly good with clients, reassuring and empathetic. Her written work is exemplary, and she is always very well-prepared.'
Legal 500, 2025

'Annie is very hard-working and will go the extra mile in her preparation. She is organised, dedicated and remains calm during challenging times.'
Legal 500, 2025

"Annie is very approachable and also thoughtful and thorough in her approach." "Very client-focused, she shows empathy and understanding in order to make vulnerable clients feel confident. She tackles matters head-on and fights for the client."
Chambers and Partners, 2024

'Annie is an excellent communicator and particularly good with vulnerable clients. Her approach is gentle and empathetic, ensuring that the client has given realistic advice. She is very approachable and is very knowledgeable.'
Legal 500, 2024

'Annie has an excellent manner and is very well liked amongst clients. She is kind and emphatic with clients, and her advocacy is always calm and measured without ever being aggressive.'
Legal 500, 2024

'Annie has excellent communication skills and can tailor her approach to client needs and is extremely articulate and robust when addressing the court. She is pragmatic in advice and not afraid to have difficult conversations with the client but leaves them in no doubt that she will fight their corner.'
Legal 500, 2023

"She is excellent on children matters. She is user-friendly, very good with clients."

Solicitor

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