DEANS COURT CHAMBERS

Julia Cheetham

1990 Lincoln's Inn (Bursar), 2015 Kings Counsel, cheetham@deanscourt.co.uk

Education	Professional Associations	Appointments
Wilmslow High School Nottingham University LLB (Hons)	Northern Circuit Family Law Bar Association	Recorder 2008 (Public Law Family, Private Law Family and Civil)

Areas of Specialism

- Family
- Children (Private)
- Child Protection
- Court of Protection
- Community Care Law
- Medical
- Human Rights
- International and Overseas Territories Law
- Community Care, Mental Health and Court of Protection

Profile

Julia's practice involves complex proceedings relating to children and young people including care proceedings, adoption, wardship and judicial review.

Julia specialises in cases involving complex medical evidence relating to the death or serious injury of children including head injury, sexual abuse and abnormal illness behaviour. She appears in the High Court and Court of Protection in serious cases involving medical treatment and complex packages of care and withdrawal of life sustaining treatment.

Cases where one parent has killed another or where a child has been unlawfully killed are a particular area of specialism and Julia has represented parents, children and local authorities in such cases many of which have involved high profile criminal cases and/or serious case reviews.

Julia has wide experience in dealing with public law cases with an international element both within the European Union and the British Overseas Territories. She has an interest in disability and Human Rights Issues, in particular, those relating to Deaf and learning disabled parents. She frequently advises in relation to capacity issues and issues arising for young people who lack capacity.

Julia has recently been involved in the leading case relating to the electronic tagging of parents in care proceedings.

Julia regularly gives seminars to professionals working within the field of child protection including safeguarding training, court craft and expert witness training.

Notable Cases

A Local Authority and Others v X (Need for a finding of fact hearing) [2023] EWFC 121

Practice Area: **Family**

Derbyshire County Council v Marsden [2023] EWHC 1892 (Fam)

Practice Area: Family

Re BR and Others (Transparency Order: Findings of Fact Hearing) [2023] EWFC Fam

Practice Area: Family

Re G (Child:Post Mortem Report: Delays) [2022] EWFC 55

Practice Area: Family

A Local Authority v A, B and D [2022] EWFC 23

Practice Area: Family

Derby CC v CK and Others (Compliance with DOL Practice Guidance) [2021] EWHC 2931 (Fam)

Practice Area: Family

I-A (Revocation of Adoption Order) [2021] EWCA Civ 1222

Practice Area: Family

Wigan BC v Y (Refusal to Authorise Deprivation of Liberty) [2021] EWHC 1982 (Fam)

Practice Area: Family

D (A Child) [2021] EWCA Civ 797

Practice Area: Family

A Borough Council v E (Unavailability of Regulated Placement) [2021] EWHC 183

Practice Area: Family

Lancashire County Council v TP and Others [2019] EWFC 30

Practice Area: Family

P (Sexual Abuse: Finding of Fact Hearing) [2019] EWFC 27

Practice Area: Family

AA and 25 Others (Children) [2019] EWFC 64

Practice Area: Family

Re M (Children) [2018] EWCA Civ 607

Practice Area: **Family**

Y (A Child) (No 2) Re [2017] EWHC 967

Practice Area: **Family**

Re X and Y (Children) [2016] EWHC 2271

Practice Area: **Family**

What the Directories say

"Julia Cheetham is excellent in all areas"
Chambers & Partners, 2026

"Julia Cheetham is one of the leading family silks in the north but her reputation extends far beyond."
Chambers & Partners, 2025

"Her reputation for thoroughness is well deserved."
Chambers & Partners, 2025

“Julia Cheetham provides clear and expert advice on highly complex matters, calming the waters in extremely contentious cases, easing the client’s concerns and providing sublime advocacy.”
Chambers & Partners, 2024

“Julia is a fabulous King’s Counsel with exceptional knowledge and is wonderful with clients.”
Chambers & Partners, 2024

Julia is a very experienced and a very persuasive advocate. She's excellent at communicating the legal complexities of a matter to clients.

Chambers & Partners, 2023

Julia Cheetham is a highly competent and fantastic advocate
Chambers & Partners, 2023

She is exemplary. She's always calm, measured and methodical - you feel in incredibly safe hands. Her case preparation, advocacy and drafting is always of the highest quality." "She's client-friendly, extremely bright and very focused on the tactics of the case.
Chambers and Partners, 2022

Julia is an exceptional advocate. Her preparation and attention to detail is impressive. Julia is fearless in presenting arguments on behalf of her clients. She is always a pleasure to work with, however ugly the issues in the case.
Legal 500, 2022

She is exceptional. She has an excellent reputation.
Chambers and Partners, 2021

She is exceptional as an advocate and always a pleasure to be in a case with. Careful preparation and fearless in cross examination.
Legal 500,2021

Julia takes an extremely thorough approach and has an incredible eye for detail, leaving no stone unturned. She is very calm and patient and

deals with the client in a calm and friendly way, which puts them at ease.

Chambers and Partners

Dogged in her pursuance of her client's case.

Legal 500

Highly experienced in matters involving children and vulnerable adults. Her cases cover a range of issues including injuries, sexual abuse and child trafficking. She has a deep understanding of the laws governing British Overseas Territories. "She never fails to impress me with her knowledge and expertise, her calming manner and her proactive, hands-on approach in difficult circumstances." "Julia's client care skills are second to none. In court she is always courteous, well prepared and able to present her case clearly and effectively.

Chambers and Partners

Very experienced in cases of serious injuries and sexual abuse involving children.

Legal 500

Her practice includes wardship, care and adoption matters.

Legal 500

Highly experienced in complex children law proceedings

Legal 500

Experienced in cases involving neglect and serious injuries to children, as well as medical treatment matters

Legal 500

Experienced in cases involving fatalities and non-accidental injuries to children

Legal 500

of silk quality

Legal 500

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