



ALISON EASTON

Year called 1994

clerks@coramchambers.com

+44 (0)20 7092 3700

OVERVIEW

Alison is a highly experienced and dedicated family practitioner who specialises in the law relating to children. She *“is a well-respected advocate who represents parents, local authorities and guardians in public care proceedings. Her cases often involve sensitive issues such as state-enforced adoption, and allegations of induced illness and non-accidental injury. She garners market praise for her representation of vulnerable clients.”* (Chambers and Partners UK Bar 2023). She has particular expertise in cases which involve medically complex facts, non-accidental injury and death, factitious illness by proxy and serious sexual abuse.

She is the current Joint Head of Chambers.

PRACTICE AREAS

Public Law Children

Private Law Children

International Family Law

Local Authority

EXPERIENCE

“Forensically outstanding,” Alison has a specific interest in the factually challenging cases of emotional abuse and chronic neglect which can bring significant and enduring impairment to children. Alison has regularly represented parents who present with mental health problems and/or addiction difficulties and believes that, as with all parents, client care coupled with robust advocacy is critically important during one of the most distressing episodes of their life. *‘She always maintains a highly professional manner, focusing solely on the evidence and where it leads. She is highly skilled advocate who takes control of a case and guides the judge, taking them to where they need to be in both cross-*

examination and in written and oral submissions. She is a first-class leader in whom professional and lay clients can have supreme confidence.' (Legal 500 UK Bar 2023)

With considerable experience in representing children in complex private law cases Alison has regularly appeared on behalf of NYAS/CAFCASS. Many of her cases include serious allegations of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. Alison has appeared in a number of relocation cases, both domestic and international and cases which have an international element in them. *"She's extremely experienced, very easy to deal with and both helpful and insightful. Her advocacy skills are very good, and she gets great feedback from guardians."* (Chambers and Partners UK Bar 2023).

Regularly appearing within the Court of Protection, Alison has represented all parties within this jurisdiction. She has appeared in cases which have involved complex factual and legal issues, and which have required a careful and forensic evaluation of those issues to ensure the core principles at the centre of The Mental Capacity Act 2005 have been preserved.

She also has extensive experience within the field of family finance. She has regularly appeared in cases which involve high net worth clients and at all levels of court.

Alison has presented lectures and seminars to in-house legal teams as well as at the Local Government Conference. She is also a regular contributor to Family Law Weekly.

CASES

In the matter of the Children Act 1989 and in the matter of YC, PC AND KM (Minors)
[2013] EWHC 2336 (Fam)

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Birmingham University (LLB Hons)
Inns of Court School of Law
Family Law Bar Association
British Association for Adoption and Fostering
Barmark Committee (Bar Council)
Inner Temple
