

### SARAH BRANSON

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# **OVERVIEW**

Described as "very good and not afraid of putting forward a difficult view if that's what's called for" Sarah Branson is an accomplished, award-winning family law barrister. She specialises in acting for children, parents and local authorities in the most complex public law proceedings. These can include non-accidental injury, sexual abuse and serious violence, involving the death of a parent or a child. Sarah also has a thriving private law practice representing parents and children in the most complex disputes.

## **PRACTICE AREAS**

Public Law Children Private Law Children International Family Law Dispute Resolution Court of Protection Alternative Families Local Authority

## **EXPERIENCE**

Sarah Branson is a barrister with a thriving practice in public and private law, specialising in working with children, parents, and local authorities. An exceptional talent, Sarah won the Family Law Awards Junior Barrister of the Year 2018 on her first nomination. She is ranked as a leading junior in both the UK Bar 2023 editions of The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners.

Clients say 'Sarah's oral advocacy has to be her primary strength. ..she has an exceptional knowledge of the law and keeps up to date with recent case law developments. She has amazing ability to think on her feet, and her knowledge and experience is evident from talking to her. She is able to explain complex legal concepts and advise clients in a way which enables them to understand the case.' Straightforward, friendly and approachable, clients trust her. Sarah understands the responsibility she bears in helping people face traumatic family issues in the courts. A qualified mediator, Sarah has excellent negotiation and conciliation skills and has successfully mediated agreements in Iran and Afghanistan.

With experience working on cases in interjurisdictional work, including trafficked children and modern-day slavery, as well as situations where there are concurrent criminal proceedings, Sarah has a particular specialism in acting in cases where one parent has killed another.

Other cases include complex non-accidental injury cases including shaking baby NAI, fictitious illness by proxy, bruising and very serious sexual abuse.

Sarah has worked in legal protection for UNHCR in Iran and Afghanistan, and as an English teacher in China, Japan, and Taiwan. She has vast experience in the rights of children across diverse cultures.

Sarah will make herself available out of hours and at weekends if her services are required.

## CASES

F (A Child) (Care Order : Deprivation of Liberty) [2021] EWHC 3527 (Fam) (09 December 2021)

Re R (Children) (Control of Court Documents) [2021] EWCA Civ 162

Y (disclosure to MPS) [2021] EWFC B33

X & Y & Anor (Final Abridged Judgment) [2020] EWFC B66

Hertfordshire CC v K (Deprivation of Liberty) [2020] EWHC 139 (Fam)

A Child (Welfare decision following finding of NAI), Re [2020] EWFC B72 (18 September 2020)

F (A Child) (Care Order : Deprivation of Liberty) [2021] EWHC 3527 (Fam) (09 December 2021)

London Borough of Waltham Forest v FC & Anor [2014] EWFC 13

London Borough of Waltham Forest v FC & Anor [2014] EWFC 14

London Borough of Barking & Dagenham v SS [2014] EWHC 3338 (Fam) (15 October 2014)

LB of Barking & Dagenham v SS

[2014] EWHC 3338 (Fam)

A Local Auth v DG & Others

[2014] EWHC 63 (Fam)

RS v SS

[2013] EWHC B33 (Fam)

Sevketoglu v Sevketoglu [2003] EWCA Civ 1570; The Times, November 27, 2003

### **EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

BA (Hons) – University of Liverpool Graduate Diploma in Law (merit) – University of Westminster Bar vocational course (very competent) – Inns of Court School of Law, City University Family Law Bar Association Association of Lawyers for Children Middle Temple

## TRAINING

Sarah has undertaken the Bar Council specialist Vulnerable witness training.

Speaker on 'The Use of Intermediaries', a highly successful event co-hosted with a representative from Communicourt on July 14th, 2015.

# LANGUAGES

Chinese – basic Japanese – basic