



PUMP COURT
CHAMBERS

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CAROLINE HARTLEY

"Marvellous ability to put clients at ease and to make them feel empowered by way of her knowledge and her ability to capture the pertinent points of a case with ease and to then put this across in court."

Legal 500, 2021

Call: 2002

For enquiries please call +44 (0)20 7353 0711 or email

Caroline Hartley specialises in representing parents, especially if they are vulnerable due to mental health problems, addictions or learning difficulties. She is also very experienced in representing children and local authorities. She has been instructed in many cases involving non-accidental injury (including the most serious cases in which a child has died, or has suffered permanent and significant injury). Caroline is also experienced in factitious or induced illness cases, salt poisoning and sexual abuse as well as neglect, physical and emotional abuse.

Clients consider Caroline to be empathic, sensitive, considerate and kind. She is also described as articulate, learned, experienced and flexible; Her abilities include being pragmatic and invariably quick to focus upon the most pertinent points. "Skilful and professional are terms used to describe her by judges".

Caroline was previously qualified as a solicitor. In this capacity she worked for five years both in private practice and for Hampshire County Council, first in civil litigation before specialising in children. Caroline regularly appears in the Family Proceedings Court, County Court, High Court and the Court of Appeal. She also sits as Deputy District Judge in both public and private law children and in civil matters.

Since 2011, she has been a legal assessor for the General Medical Council and since 2013 a legal assessor for the Nursing Midwifery Council. She was appointed as a Deputy District Judge on the Western Circuit in February 2013.

Children Law (Public)

Caroline specialises in representing parents, especially if they are vulnerable due to mental health problems, addictions or learning difficulties. She is also very experienced in representing children and local authorities. She has been instructed in many cases involving non-accidental injury (including the most serious cases in which a child has died, or has suffered permanent and significant injury). Caroline is also experienced in factitious or induced illness

cases, salt poisoning and sexual abuse as well as neglect, physical and emotional abuse.

Court of Protection

Caroline appears regularly in the Court of Protection in London and on Circuit, instructed by individuals in cases involving the court making difficult decisions about where a relative, who has lost decision-making capacity, should live, with whom they should have contact, or how that relative's often significant finances should be managed. Cases inevitably involve the official solicitor and frequently, local authorities.

Children Law (Private)

Caroline specialises in representing parents, especially if they are vulnerable due to mental health problems, addictions or learning difficulties.

Child Abduction

Caroline has expertise in cases involving child abduction.

Selected Cases

B v B [2011] EWHC 2300 Fam

Abduction: Child with Autism.

Inheritance, Wills & Probate

Caroline is experienced in dealing with claims brought under the Inheritance Act and Court of Protection.

Regulatory & Disciplinary

Caroline has significant experience in medical disciplinary cases. Since 2011, she has been a legal assessor for the GMC and since 2013 a legal assessor for the NMC.

Caroline has extensive experience working with local authorities. Prior to joining the Bar, Caroline worked as a solicitor in private practice and for Hampshire County Council. As a barrister, she is an expert in care proceedings and very experienced in representing local authorities.

She has been instructed in many cases involving non-accidental injury (including the most serious cases in which a child has died or has suffered permanent and significant injury).

Caroline is also a deputy district judge on the Western Circuit and is a member of Pump Court Chambers Independent Inquiries team.

Professional associations

- Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers
- Family Law Bar Association
- Western Circuit

Professional activities

Caroline lectures widely both in-house for Pump Court Chambers and externally on all matters relating to children as well as on mental capacity issues and vulnerable adults.

Caroline was on the board of governors at her local primary school for 10 years including 3 years as chair and two as deputy, with a special interest in admissions and special needs.

Caroline studied the clarinet and piano at the Royal Academy of Music, London and enjoyed a varied career in the arts both performing and teaching, ultimately being involved in the organisation of festivals and concert series.

Outside Interests

Caroline enjoys playing golf and squash. She also takes pleasure in walking, travelling and holidays.

Publications

- Contributor to Gill Steele's web publication