



In 1989, Pauline qualified as a solicitor and has practised exclusively in the field of family law since. Then in 1996 Pauline was accredited by the Law Society as a member of the Children Panel authorised to represent parents and children in public law proceedings. Over the years, Pauline undertook increasing amounts of advocacy as a solicitor, and in 2007 was awarded Higher Rights of Audience by the Law Society and has now fully embraced this skill by transferring to the Bar in October 2011. Pauline is therefore a dual qualified practitioner in that she remains on the roll of solicitors but now practises as a barrister.

Pauline's experience covers the full range of child protection cases including the most serious matters involving homicide within the family, sexual abuse, non-accidental injury, neglect, domestic violence, substance misuse and mental health difficulties. She has developed a particular expertise in the law relating to children, especially children and their families in the context of public law care and adoption proceedings.

In addition to her children's work in the public law field, Pauline has considerable experience of the law arising from alternative family structures, especially in the gay community, and families created by surrogacy or donor insemination arrangements.

Children (Public Law)

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Selected Cases

- Re H (a minor) (blood tests: parental rights) [1996] 4 All ER 28
- Re C (Care: Consultation with Parents Not in Child's Best Interests) [2006] 2 FLR 787
- Re J (Child Giving Evidence) [2010] 2 FLR 1080
- Sutton v Gray and Others (No 1) [2013] 1 FLR 833
- Sutton v Gray and Others (No 2) [2012] EWHC 2763 (Fam), [2013] FLR 914, Hogg J
- LB Sutton v Butler and Gray [2014] EWHC 15 Fam
- CtL and CmL (Children) (Welfare Hearing: Expert Report), Re [2013] EWHC 2134 (Fam) (21 June 2013)
- East Sussex County Council v SV, TG and AG [2017] EWHC 536 (Fam), MacDonald J
- West Sussex County Council v K [2022] EWFC 170 (06 December 2022)
- Re O (A Child) [2024] EWCA Civ 126
- WSCC v Mother & Ors [2024] EWFC 147 (B) (19 February 2024)

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Admitted as a Solicitor: 1989

Education

LLB Hons Law Degree - University of Exeter

Memberships

Membership of the Association of Lawyers for Children

Membership of the Family Law Bar Association (FLBA)

Chambers representative on the Sussex and Kent FLBA

Publications

- Re H (a minor) (blood tests: parental rights) [1996] 4 All ER 28
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