

Joy Brereton

“She is the best children law junior in London and better than most silks. She has an extraordinary ability to win round judges with a powerful but highly intelligent advocacy style.”

Legal 500 2019 Family Junior of the Year

“She’s just always very available, a very persuasive advocate and very good with the clients. She has it all.”

Chambers & Partners 2018 – Band 1



Experience

Year of Call: 1990

Practice Areas

- Court of Protection - Vulnerable Adult
- International Children Law
- Private Children Law
- Public Children Law

Dispute Resolution

- Mediation

Direct Access

Direct Access

Awards



Education

LLB (Hons)

LLM

William Mc Nair Scholarship Grays Inn

Appointments

Recorder 2018

Profile

Joy is a specialist children practitioner whose work is predominantly in the High Court and Central London. She has particular expertise in complex children matters encompassing both private and public law proceedings. She is regularly involved in cases concerning non-accidental injury, sexual abuse, physical and emotional abuse of children acting for all parties.

In addition she is a specialist in private law matters where there are protracted and highly contentious disputes and she is particularly specialist in the international relocation and movement of children including adoption.

Memberships

Family Law Bar Association

Member of the FLBA Executive committee

Association of Lawyers for Children

Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL)

South Eastern Circuit

Gray's Inn

Joy previously sat as a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal

Directories

Highly experienced barrister who is recognised for her work in complex children cases. She exhibits strength in international matters, and has additional expertise in disputes concerning issues of criminal offences and abuse. Her expertise spans both private and public cases.

Strengths: "Joy fights for her clients and is a passionate advocate. She is an excellent strategist and has

wonderful client care skills.” “Joy is able to pick up cases and grasp the detail very quickly. Excellent in court and a very strong advocate, she’s able to gauge the correct tone to take and which arguments to run.”

Chambers & Partners 2020

Band 1

‘Knows every detail of her cases and is a formidable presence in court.’

Legal 500, 2020 Family Junior of the Year

Top Tier

“She is the best children law junior in London and better than most silks. She has an extraordinary ability to win round judges with a powerful but highly intelligent advocacy style.”

Legal 500 2019 Family Junior of the Year

Highly experienced children law barrister who is recognised for her work in cases concerning the movement of children internationally. She additionally exhibits strength in matters concerning issues of criminal offences and abuse. Her expertise spans both private and public cases.

Strengths: “The modern-day equivalent of a knight in shining armour for difficult children cases, she is robust enough for the most difficult of clients and cases.” “She is a force of nature and a go-to barrister for tricky private children work.”

Chambers & Partners 2019

Band 1

‘Judges love her – she is firm and persuasive in court.’

Legal 500, 2019

Top Tier

Highly experienced children law barrister who is recognised for her work in cases concerning the movement of children internationally. She additionally exhibits strength in matters concerning issues of criminal offences and abuse. Her expertise spans both private and public cases.

Strengths: “She’s just always very available, a very persuasive advocate and very good with the clients. She has it all.”

Chambers & Partners 2018

Band 1

‘She works ridiculously hard and is meticulous on paper and clever on her feet.’

Legal 500, 2017

Highly experienced children law barrister who is recognised for her work in cases concerning the movement of children internationally. She additionally exhibits strength in matters concerning issues of criminal offences and abuse.

Strengths: “She’s marvellously authoritative, and can deal with both clients and the judge beautifully.”

Chambers & Partners 2017

Band 1

‘Her preparation is top notch.’

Legal 500, 2016

Has an enviable reputation for taking on some of the most challenging children cases. She specialises in

both public and private matters, and is singled out for her resolute nature and willingness to fight.

Strengths: “Not many people are prepared to have a fight in the way she is. There’s not many who fight things they might lose. She is prepared to take sensible risks for her clients, and is a fearless advocate.”

Recent work: Joy went to the High Court in a public law children case. The grandparents of a child were accused of being complicit in the international abduction of a child by its parents. The case included an international police effort to locate the missing child.

Chambers & Partners 2016

Undertakes both private and public law children proceedings, and has a particular affinity for cases with an international angle to them, particularly those concerning international abduction, relocation and serious injury to children.

Expertise: “Very sensible, very realistic and incredibly effective as an advocate.”

Chambers & Partners 2015

‘Utterly fearless and a superb advocate’

The Legal 500 2015

Highly experienced in private and public law children work and is especially recognised for her work regarding adoption and child relocation. She also handles cases involving issues for consideration such as education and religion.

Recent work: Featured in a high-profile case involving a decision concerning the upbringing of five children from the Chassidic community. This concerned a disagreement between the parents over the education of the children which would entirely affect their whole way of life and rules for living.

Chambers & Partners 2014

Another favourite amongst solicitors as is Joy Brereton, a “tough, no-nonsense” advocate who handles all aspects of children law with a particular focus on complex private law disputes such as international relocation.

Chambers & Partners 2013

Joy Brereton draws particular praise for her work relating to child relocation. “She is very approachable, very persuasive in court and has a fantastic manner with the clients,” say those that use her.

Chambers & Partners 2012

Joy Brereton, “a gifted advocate with in-depth knowledge of all aspects of children law. Her reassuring manner always plays well with clients,” say sources.

Chambers & Partners 2011

Cases

15/05/2020	A Local Authority v The Mother & Ors (2020)	Cyrus Larizadeh QC Joy Brereton Lucy Cheetham	[2020] EWHC 1233 (Fam)
05/11/2018	A (Foreign Adoption Recognition) (2018)	Joy Brereton	[2018] EWHC 3468 (Fam)

24/02/2017	A Local Authority (Applicant (Care Proceedings)) & A NHS Trust (Intervener & Applicant (Inherent Jurisdiction)) v (1) MC (2) FC (3) C (A Child By His Guardian) (2017)	Joy Brereton	[2017] EWHC 370 (Fam)
31/01/2014	Harrow v Afzal [2014] (sentencing remarks)	Mark Jarman Joy Brereton Private: Oliver Jones	[2014] EWHC 303 (Fam)
07/11/2012	Re G (Children) (2012)	Joy Brereton Michael Gratton	[2012] EWCA Civ 1434
04/10/2012	Re G (Children) (2012)	Joy Brereton	[2012] EWCA Civ 1233
08/04/2010	Re D (A Child) 2010	Joy Brereton	[2010] EWCA Civ 593 : (2010) 106(16) LSG 13
16/08/2007	DM v (1) EJC (2) KJM & HPM (By their Guardian) (2007)	Joy Brereton	[2007] EWHC 2343 (Fam)
29/07/2007	RE S (A CHILD) (2008)	Joy Brereton	
20/07/2007	Re L (Adoption: Contacting Natural Father) (2007)	Joy Brereton	[2007] EWHC 1771 (Fam); (2008) 1 FLR 1079
04/04/2007	H v (1) D (2) X & Y (By Their Guardian AD Litem, O) (2007)	Henry Setright QC Private: Marcus Scott-Manderson QC Joy Brereton	[2007] EWHC 802 (Fam)
31/01/2006	Re G (A Child) (2006)	Stephen Lyon Joy Brereton	[2006] EWCA Civ 348
09/03/2005	F & J (Children) [2005]	Joy Brereton	[2005] EWCA Civ 349