



# Darren Howe

QC

Year of Call: 1992 Year of Silk: 2015

**Education:** LLB (Hons)

**Appointments:** Recorder 2012, Silk 2015, Deputy High Court Judge 2016

## Summary

Darren represents parents, children and local authorities across the whole range of children related disputes. Darren specialises in complex cases at High Court level and above involving:

- disputes as to the cause of catastrophic injuries and/or death of children, particularly cases that may involve Ehlers Danlos Syndrome and other metabolic and genetic disorders
- allegations of recent or historic sexual abuse
- fabricated or induced illness allegations
- disputes as to the deprivation of liberty of a child
- parents with special needs
- vulnerable or child witnesses
- contentious private law cases involving allegations of parental alienation, intractable contact disputes, domestic and international relocation.

## Profile

Darren has extensive experience in cases of the most complex kind that are heard in the Family Court, the Family Division of the High Court and the Court of Appeal. He is instructed on behalf of parents, children and local authorities and has a keen eye to the detail of a case. He demonstrates a clear understanding of the medical science that the court considers when determining the cause of injury or death of the child with who the court is concerned. Darren also has extensive experience in complex fact-finding hearings concerning allegations of fabricated illness and sexual abuse.

Darren specialises in representing parents and children in cases involving proven or alleged parental alienation. He is extremely familiar with how such cases should be managed by the court, given the unusual features of these cases that require the court to think 'out of the box' to achieve the best result of the child.

Darren is instructed in high conflict residence cases, internal and international relocation cases and surrogacy/applications for parental orders.

International family law issues arise regularly in the public law and private law cases in which Darren appears. Darren is very experienced in addressing in international elements of modern family law, particularly relocation issues.

Darren has, for many years, been instructed to represent same sex couples in disputes concerning children. Darren has appeared in reported cases concerning surrogacy arrangements / parental orders.

## Memberships

Member Family Law Bar Association (FLBA), South Eastern

## Publications

Enough is Enough: A report on Child Protection and Mental Health Services for Children and Young People (The Centre for Social Justice [June 2014])

Concurrent Planning: Achieving early permanence for babies and young children. BAAF July 2013

Removal of Children at Interim Hearings [2009] Fam Law 321

International Surrogacy - A Country Tale, Family Law January 2008

Expert Evidence in cases of Alleged Non-Accidental Injury, Family Law October 2007

Darren is a co-author of DIY Divorce & Separation: The Expert Guide to Representing Yourself (Jordan Publishing), 2014  
<http://diydivorce.familylaw.co.uk/1GC-Blog>

## Seminars and Training

Darren has delivered many lectures within his Principal place of practice - 1 Garden Court Chambers, London - for external providers and local authorities on specialist subjects within his expertise, including such topics as adoption, care planning the Public Law case management protocol, paediatricians as expert witnesses, parenting orders and international surrogacy.

## Awards

Recipient of the first ever FLBA 'Special Contribution Award' for his significant work in supporting the Bar with paperless and remote working.

