

Abigail Bond
Head of Children



YEAR OF CALL: 1999

INN: MIDDLE TEMPLE

JUDICIAL OFFICE: FEE-PAID JUDGE
OF THE FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL

“ Abigail is hard-working and thorough in her preparation. She made what was a complicated case almost straightforward. Abigail absolutely nails her briefs and is very diligent.”

CHAMBERS UK, 2022
FAMILY/MATRIMONIAL

Areas of Expertise

Family Law

Abigail practises in all aspects of the law relating to children and is Head of the Children Law team. She has considerable experience of care proceedings in which she represents local authorities, parents and children. She handles a wide range of cases, including those involving allegations of inflicted injury and serious sexual abuse. She also undertakes complex private law work: high-conflict residence disputes, 'intractable contact' cases, and applications for leave to remove from the jurisdiction.

She is the author of several articles on family law matters and of the well-received Care Proceedings and Learning Disabled Parents: A Handbook for Family Lawyers (Jordans, 2014, 2nd edition). The Foreword, by Mrs Justice Pauffley, describes it as "erudite, concise and immensely readable". The book arose out of Abigail's experience in representing learning-disabled parents, where she strives to ensure that her clients are fairly and properly assessed, and given every opportunity to retain the care of their children.

In addition, Abigail represents parties in the Court of Protection, with an emphasis on health and welfare matters.

In 2019 Abigail was appointed as a Fee-paid Judge of the First-tier Tribunal (Health Education and Social Care Chamber), ticketed to the Mental Health Jurisdiction.

Children Public and Private Law

Abigail practises in all aspects of the law relating to children and is Head of the Children Law team. She has considerable experience of care proceedings in which she represents local authorities, parents and children. She handles a wide range of cases, including those involving allegations of inflicted injury and serious sexual abuse. She also undertakes complex private law work: high-conflict residence disputes, 'intractable contact' cases, and applications for leave to remove from the jurisdiction.

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Court of Protection

Abigail has an expanding Court of Protection practice in which she represents parties in health and welfare cases and into which transfers some of the skills and experience she has acquired in representing learning disabled adults in care proceedings. She is typically instructed in cases involving best interests' decision-making in the context of disputes surrounding the care of very elderly patients.

She is the author of several articles on Family Law matters and of the well-received '*Care Proceedings and Learning Disabled Parents: A Handbook for Family Lawyers*' (Jordans, 2014). The Foreword, by Mrs Justice Pauffley, describes it as "erudite, concise and immensely readable." The book arose out of Abigail's experience in representing learning disabled parents, where she strives to ensure that her clients are fairly and properly assessed and given every opportunity to retain the care of their children.

Recommendations

- ▶ "Abigail has strength all-round. She has particular skills in dealing with clients with learning difficulties and mental health issues."
LEGAL 500, 2022
CHILD LAW
- ▶ "She is very good – well liked and respected."
CHAMBERS UK, 2021
FAMILY/MATRIMONIAL
- ▶ "Very patient and great empathy with clients with learning disabilities and disadvantaged adults."
LEGAL 500, 2021
FAMILY & CHILDREN LAW
- ▶ "An excellent barrister."
LEGAL 500, 2020
FAMILY & CHILDREN LAW
- ▶ "Painstaking and sensitive with clients."
LEGAL 500, 2019
FAMILY AND CHILDREN LAW

Related Cases

- ▶ *A Local Authority x X & Y* [2020] EWFC 36
- ▶ *Re G (A Child) (Fact-Finding Hearing)* [2017] EWHC 2591 (Fam)
- ▶ *DMM, Re (Alzheimer's : power of attorney)* [2017] EWCOP 32
- ▶ *Re S (A Child) (Care Proceedings: Surrogacy)* [2015] EWFC 99
- ▶ *SCC v E* [2015]
- ▶ *Re H-B (Contact)* [2015] EWCA Civ 389
- ▶ *Re A & B (Children) (fact-finding hearing)* [2015] EWFCB48
- ▶ *Re M-J (A Child)* [2007] EWCA Civ 56

Appointments:

- ▶ Fee-paid Judge of the First-tier Tribunal (Mental Health jurisdiction). 2019.

Professional memberships:

- ▶ Family Law Bar Association
- ▶ Resolution (Associate Member)
- ▶ Western Circuit
- ▶ Bar Pro Bono Unit Family Law Panel

Qualifications & awards:

- ▶ BA Hons (Oxon), LLM (University of East Anglia)
- ▶ Formerly: lecturer in family and property law 1993 – 1998.

Contact Abigail:

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