



Sophie Beesley



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Profile

Sophie was called to the Bar in July 2012. Following completion of her pupillage, she became a tenant at Old Square Chambers in October 2014.

Sophie has a broad practice in all areas of chambers' work with a particular focus on personal injury, clinical negligence, professional discipline, employment, inquests and motor defence. In these areas, Sophie undertakes a full range of advisory, drafting and advocacy work. Sophie is also often instructed as junior counsel in cases alongside more senior members of chambers.

Sophie came to the Bar after a successful eight-year career in the private and charitable sectors, as a management consultant for Deloitte and more recently as a senior manager for The Prince's Trust. Although working full time during most of her studies, she received the highest possible grades in all her qualifications and numerous prizes from her Law School and Inn (Lincoln's Inn). She won all her Law School's advocacy competitions and a further prize in a national mediation competition.

Before starting her pupillage, Sophie gained considerable experience as a self-employed advocate representing clients in the County Court. She appeared in over 200 hearings including mortgage possessions, bankruptcies, set aside and summary judgment applications, and infant settlements. She also worked as Deputy Director of a pro-bono service providing advice and representation in family and domestic violence matters. Sophie ran this service and also managed her own caseload, appearing regularly in the County Court and on appeals.

Sophie is a magistrate, sitting initially in Brent and now in Bristol.

In her spare time Sophie enjoys rock climbing, salsa dancing, clay pigeon shooting and walking with her flat coat retriever Ollie. She chairs and fundraises for Raise the Roof, a UK charity which she set up to support a children's home in South Africa during her gap year.

Further detail of Sophie's work can be found under the relevant headings below.

Awards

Qualifications

- First Class BSc Psychology Degree (Hons) from the University of Warwick.
- Outstanding on the Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC)



- Distinction in the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL)

Prizes

- 2012 Lincoln's Inn Ede & Ravenscroft Student of the Year award for achieving the highest overall BPTC result
- 2012 Bristol Law School prize for achieving the highest overall BPTC result
- 2012 Carol Crowdy prize for the highest mark in the BPTC Civil Litigation and Evidence module
- Winner of 2012 Albion Chambers' family advocacy competition
- Winner of 2012 Albion Chambers' criminal advocacy competition
- Winner of 2012 Guildhall Chambers' civil & commercial advocacy competition
- Winner of 2012 Master's award in the Worshipful Company of Arbitrators national mediation competition
- 2012 Megarry scholarship (Lincoln's Inn)
- 2011 Lord Denning scholarship (Major BPTC award - Lincoln's Inn)
- ADR Group Accredited Civil and Commercial Mediator