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LAW PUPILLAGES HANDBOOK 2024
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• High quality teaching from tutors with in-depth experience of legal practice.
• The chance to take on real cases through our award-winning Pro Bono Unit.
• Exceptional links with the local Bar, which provide a number of advocacy and mooting competitions.
• Practitioner advocacy master classes.
• Mock pupillage interviews.
• Training which provides the opportunity for students to become accredited civil commercial mediators.
• Specialist facilities including two mock court rooms and dedicated teaching rooms.

The option to complete an LLM by way of taught specialist modules combined with a short written project within 12 months of commencement of the course.

"The training I received was fantastic. From the staff, course materials and extra-curricular activities, I couldn’t fault any of it. I definitely would not be where I am today without all the help that UWE Bristol provided me with."

Rachel, Barrister Bar Professional Training Course alum

Be a positive force for change with Professional Law.

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The ultimate directory of pupillages 2025

The Pupillages Handbook is a comprehensive directory of pupillages available in the session commencing autumn 2025. It is packed with information from chambers offering pupillages and on-the-job profiles of junior barristers, as well as hints on how to identify which chambers is the best fit for you. Vacancy numbers for pupillage and mini-pupillage were affected by the pandemic and its aftermath, but anecdotal reports suggest that things have now returned to normal.

Find out how you can make the most of the financial support available from the Inns of Court and other sources on page 10, or read through the rest of the publication to help inform your decision about where you would like to undertake pupillage, how to address online pupillage applications and how to demonstrate your legal or non-legal experience in the most appropriate fashion.

When you’re ready, flick to the back pages to find out what chambers have to say about themselves and to see what they offer prospective pupils. Each listing contains all the dates, facts and figures you need to know to make a timely application.

The Pupillages Handbook is distributed at the time that the targetjobs National Pupillage Fair takes place. The fair will be hosted at Lincoln’s Inn on 25 November 2023, just before the Bar Council’s Pupillage Gateway system opens to applications. It offers the chance to meet chambers’ representatives from a wide variety of sets and to learn more about your potential for a Bar career.

For a complete guide to life at the Bar, explore our targetjobs law careers advice hub: @targetjobs
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Braving the Bar

Assess whether you’re ready for the Bar.

It’s the job that offers it all. Money, independence, variety, intellectual challenge – not to mention the lure of advocacy. But before you run gleefully to the nearest wig shop, make time for a reality check. Life as a barrister can be extremely tough and the route to get there is fiercely competitive. In recent years, there have been 500 pupillages available per year on average, but up to 1,800 students a year enrolling on their vocational course and seeking pupillage, according to statistics from the Bar Standards Board. It’s vital you take a good, hard look at yourself before making the commitment – and be brutally honest.

One of the major roles that distinguishes the Bar from other professions is advocacy. Not everyone is suited to it and your talents in this area will be a make-or-break factor. You have to love public speaking and – more importantly – be able to improvise. You’ll become unstuck if you’re too dependent on a script – barristers need to be concise and persuasive even when there’s no time for thought.

Equally, you must be able to put on a display of confidence. Allowing nerves or uncertainty to show is never a good move and it’s important to be thick-skinned so you can weather attacks in court without overreacting. This isn’t to say you’ll be stepping straight out of university and into a courtroom – the Bar course will help you develop the skills you’ll need – but you must have the right aptitude to start with.

Assess yourself

There are a number of questions to ask yourself if you’re considering a career at the Bar. Firstly, examine your motivation. Is being a barrister really what you want? Why? Secondly, be honest about your skills – do you have what it takes? Thirdly, consider the lifestyle. Are you prepared for the hard work required? Do you want a job that is all-consuming? Do you thrive on stress? Finally, there’s the issue of finance. Can you pay your way through the Bar course (and, if necessary, a conversion course)? Will you cope if money is tight during the first years of practice? Can you deal with being self-employed and living without the security of a monthly pay packet?
Are you prepared to take the financial risk in light of the competition? If you can answer ‘yes’ to all of these you should have a promising career ahead of you.

Converting to law
If you are a non-law student, you will first have to do a one-year conversion course: this was originally known as the graduate diploma in law (GDL), but has since been revised thanks to changes to the solicitors qualification route and may now be known as the postgraduate diploma in law (PGDL) or by the name common professional examination (CPE).

After this, both non-law and law graduates study the Bar course, for which you will need to find funding – try the Inns of Court, chambers that offer ‘draw downs’ (advances) on their pupillage awards, banks and your family for help (see page 10 for more details). The Bar course is now known by a variety of different names at different institutions.

You may come across information about the Bar course aptitude test (BCAT). This was an exam that, until recently, aspiring barristers needed to pass to progress onto the Bar course. The BCAT was discontinued in July 2022.

Financial factors
Once your vocational training is complete, you will start on your pupillage year. This may bring further financial pressure, depending on your set of chambers and their financial arrangements. Chambers must offer the minimum award amount set by the Bar Standards Board (in 2023, it was £18,884 outside of London and £23,703 inside it). Some commercial and chancery sets offer awards of around £40,000–£85,000 while other sets (eg crime) are unable to offer more than the minimum.

The entries in this handbook should tell you what your preferred chambers are offering in terms of financial support and we strongly advise you to check with the pupillage contacts if you have any doubts or queries.

As a pupil, you will probably not be expected to contribute towards the running costs of chambers but it is worth checking with pupillage committees to see what is required of you. Of course, you’ll also have to cover all of your living costs when starting your career at the Bar.
The Bar Council
The Bar Council represents barristers in England and Wales. It promotes the Bar’s high-quality specialist advocacy and advisory services, fair access to justice for all, the highest standards of ethics, equality and diversity across the profession, and the development of business opportunities for barristers at home and abroad. The Bar Council is the approved regulator of the Bar, but it discharges these functions through the independent Bar Standards Board (BSB). www.barcouncil.org.uk

The Bar Standards Board
The Bar Standards Board serves as the Bar’s very own watchdog for the public interest. As such it lays out and enforces regulations that affect the profession. It is responsible for:
• setting the education and training requirements for becoming a barrister
• balancing continuing professional development (CPD) requirements to ensure that barristers’ skills are maintained throughout their careers
• deciding standards of conduct for barristers
• monitoring the service provided by barristers
• handling complaints against barristers.
www.barstandardsboard.org.uk

The Inns of Court
The Inns are voluntary societies that provide education, support and facilities to their members. You have to join one at least 12 weeks before starting the Bar course but it’s highly advisable to do so sooner. For some – but not all – conversion course and Bar course students,

Pupillage funding and advertising requirements
The Bar Standards Board (BSB) has stated that pupillage awards will rise from 1 January each year in line with recommendations by the Living Wage Foundation. Pupillages must be advertised via the Bar Council’s designated website: www.pupillagegateway.com. This website contains profiles of chambers offering pupillages and enables prospective pupils to apply online.

The pupillage funding rules in the BSB Handbook require that chambers pay reasonable expenses incurred during pupillage to all pupils. All chambers that take pupils have been provided with detailed guidance in relation to payment of travel expenses and compulsory courses that pupils have to undertake.

The minimum award for 2023 was £18,884 for pupillages outside of London and £20,703 for pupillages in London. Keep an eye on the Bar Standards Board’s website for the announcement of the 2024 rates. However, it is worth noting that many chambers award higher than the minimum amounts.

Chambers may apply for a waiver from both pupillage funding and pupillage advertising requirements. As regards applications for waivers it is important that a chambers applies for a waiver and not a prospective pupil. The Pupillage Funding and Advertising Committee at the Bar Standards Board deals with these applications on an individual chambers basis.
the Inns provide much-needed financial assistance in the form of scholarships and bursaries worth over £6m per year. (Turn to page 10 for more information on how to fund your career at the Bar.) The Inns can be a great source of advice and information on all aspects of becoming a barrister. The Inns offer similar facilities and services to each other. The way in which they differ tends to be in terms of atmosphere and administration so choosing an Inn often boils down to a matter of personal preference. You will have the most contact with your Inn during your Bar course year and it also organises the ceremony during which you will be called to the Bar after successfully completing the course. You must have attended ten qualifying sessions at your Inn, and some of these may be through dining at your Inn. Dining promotes socialising within the profession and gives students the opportunity to meet each other and other members of the profession, including barristers, KCs and judges. Other qualifying events include lecture evenings and advocacy courses.

Opportunities outside London
Once you decide to embark on a career at the Bar, you will not only need to consider in what type of chambers you would like to work but also in which city. Although some of the best known sets are in the capital, don’t disregard career opportunities outside London. Work is plentiful and of high quality ‘on circuit’ and can be more varied. The six circuits in England and Wales are: Northern, North Eastern, Midland, Wales and Chester, Western, and South Eastern. (Turn to page 20 for more information about working in the regions.)

Becoming a barrister is intellectually and emotionally demanding. After you have asked yourself if you are happy taking the financial risks, and decided that you are burning for a dose of sometimes daily advocacy, just consider if you could rely on yourself for a living. Once barristers have answered positively in the face of all these potential obstacles, most find that they become passionately committed to their careers and go on to enjoy great success.

To find out more about a career in the legal profession and to read the views of both recently qualified and experienced barristers, get your hands on a copy of targetjobs Law. Some copies are available at departments or your careers service or you can read a digital copy at targetjobs.co.uk/publications.

Milestones on the road to qualification

**Academic stage**
Law degree or non-law degree plus appropriate conversion course.

Conversion course fees: up to £14,000, depending on the study method.

**Vocational stage (Bar course)**
Formerly known as the BPTC. Undertaken in one or two parts, or as part of an integrated LLM. Bar course fees: approximately £12,000–£20,000 depending on type of course studied.

**Practical stage**
Undertake pupillage in chambers, before securing a tenancy, often with the same set, or completing a ‘third six’.
Your Bar course
options explained

If you have yet to apply for the vocational stage of the qualification process, here is what you need to know in a nutshell.

The Bar course (formerly known everywhere as the Bar professional training course or BPTC, but now known by different names at different providers) is the vocational stage of training for aspiring barristers. Recent changes to the Bar training have made the courses more flexible and more accessible.

Aspiring barristers still need to complete the three stages of training – the academic stage (a law degree or a conversion course), vocational stage (the Bar course) and the professional stage (pupillage) – but the days of there only being a single option to progress through the vocational stage are gone.

Three-step route
This is the ‘old’ route to the Bar. You undertake a law degree (or non-law degree and a conversion course), then move on to the Bar course and finally pupillage.

Four-step route
This is a new take on the old route. You complete a law degree (or non-law degree and a conversion course), then undertake the Bar course split into two parts. You will not move on to the second part of the Bar course (also the most expensive part) until you have passed the first part of the course, meaning that you only pay for the parts that you take. Once you have successfully completed both parts, you apply for and complete a pupillage before becoming a barrister.

Integrated route
The first ‘two’ steps of the three-step route are combined into one (you complete the academic and vocational training together) before undertaking pupillage. This could be in the form of a tailored LLM from a course provider or other equivalent qualification.

Apprenticeship route
This will combine all the stages of Bar training into one programme (ie you would finish your apprenticeship with a degree, vocational qualification and a period of work-based learning to your name). However, at the time of writing this route is not yet available.

Entry requirements
Before you begin the Bar course, you will need to have joined an Inn of Court, be fluent in English and have completed a degree in law or a postgraduate conversion course in law. Otherwise, each course provider will set their own entry requirements. You will need to apply for the Bar course within five years of completing your law degree/conversion course.
Course content
The Bar course is required to follow a syllabus that ensures barristers have the right level of skills and knowledge to demonstrate a high standard of professional practice. The qualification route that you choose may affect how some of the below subjects are delivered, but you will learn the following subjects and skills:

- advocacy
- civil litigation and alternative dispute resolution
- conference skills
- criminal litigation, evidence and sentencing
- drafting
- opinion writing and legal research
- professional ethics.

Choosing a course
When deciding where to study, think about which method suits you best: do you learn well via an online course and distance learning or do you perform better in a classroom environment? Next, investigate the course provider’s facilities, teaching reputation and their connections with chambers.

Finally, try to get a sense from those likely in the know. Ask professors in your law faculty (even if you are not studying law) for their thoughts on the various options open to you and see if you can reach out with current Bar course students – either through an institution’s admission teams or via LinkedIn.

How to apply
Applications should be made directly to a course provider. Courses traditionally start each September, but some courses start at other points (such as January or June). Course deadlines vary, but in general you should apply no later than April/May for a course starting in September.

Alongside your application, you may need to sit a selection interview and complete a short advocacy exercise to prove your suitability for a career at the Bar.

All of the Bar courses are accredited by the Bar Standards Board and full details of the courses and providers can be found on its website: barstandardsboard.org.uk.
Funding your Bar training

Training to be a barrister is expensive. As well as your degree (which is expected to leave the average student with debts of around £45,000, according to the House of Commons Library), a conversion course for those without a law degree typically costs between £6,000 and £14,000. Bar training fees range from £13,000 to £20,000 and on top of this you’ll need to add living expenses. Most students rely on scholarships or bursaries, loans, part-time work and one or more of the following options to support their studies.

Inns of Court scholarships

Between them, the Inns of Court award over £6m to help students cover the cost of qualifying. This may include subsidised housing arrangements, major scholarships and exhibitions, or awards that cover particular costs (for example admission or call fees). The four Inns of Court each provide financial assistance to help their members during study and training. You do not have to be a member to apply for scholarships at an Inn, but if you are offered an award then you must become a member to receive it. You may only apply for a scholarship at one Inn each year. The majority of scholarships are available for the Bar course but there are others awarded for the conversion course and during pupillage. Then there are usually still more awards to cover expenses or gaining experience at the Bar or abroad.

Assessing your Inn-tent

Each Inn has its own set of criteria that it uses to assess candidates. Generally speaking, they encompass:

- intellectual ability and high academic achievement
- potential for successful practice
- mooting and debating skills
- motivation to succeed
- personal qualities and extracurricular activities.

Have a look at the Inns’ websites or contact them directly to find out their specific selection criteria.

To Inn-terview

Each Inn has its own online application form. Make sure you answer the questions carefully, highlighting how your skills match the criteria. You will need to organise two to three references, usually including at least one from academia. If your application is successful, you’ll likely be invited to an interview as the final stage of the process.

When to apply

All Inns have the same deadlines for applications for Bar course and conversion course scholarships – late applications are not accepted. Cut-off times on the day vary so check with the Inn in advance.

- Conversion course: the first Friday in May in the year of the relevant CPE/GDL/PGDL course.
• Bar course: the first Friday in the November preceding the start of the course.
• Pupillage year: deadlines vary according to the Inn so contact them directly for details.

Once applications have been received, the Inn will make a shortlist of candidates to invite for interview. You’re likely to be interviewed by a panel, which will probably include a bencher (a senior member of the Inn). For some awards you may be asked to demonstrate your abilities through a viva voce examination, mooting or debating. Once the committee has chosen to make an award they will usually consider a candidate’s financial situation when deciding the amount.

Hardship funds
When you apply for the conversion course and Bar course, enquire about any available hardship funds or bursaries at your chosen institution(s). These are usually discretionary funds that help students who encounter unforeseen financial difficulties during the course of their studies. However, depending on the institution, there may also be bursaries that you can apply for in advance.

Draw down pupillage awards
A number of chambers (usually large commercial sets) will allow successful applicants to withdraw part of their pupillage award early in order to help fund their Bar course year. Depending on the size of the pupillage award, the amount you can draw in advance may vary.

Other loans
If your conversion course or Bar course is a masters-level qualification and you normally live in England, you could be eligible for a postgraduate masters loan from the government; applicants who normally live in Wales could receive a combination of a grant and a loan. See gov.uk and www.studentfinancewales.co.uk for more details.

There are also specialist loan providers for postgraduate study. The course provider you’re applying to should be able to point you in the direction of funding sources; many also have their own grants and bursaries available.

Get help if you need it
Barristers are responsible for their own financial affairs so it’s important to seek advice regarding handling these. Once in practice you’ll have quite a few overheads to contend with (for example rent, clerks’ fees and travelling costs) and cash flow can prove difficult at times, as barristers often experience a delay between completing work and being paid. It’s vital that you keep proper financial records too.

Many barristers opt to employ the services of an accountant who can offer advice on self-assessment, record keeping, income tax, VAT and National Insurance, as well as more general matters.

“Barristers are responsible for their own financial affairs so it’s important to seek advice regarding handling these.”
Choosing your chambers

Key considerations when hunting for pupillage.

Up to a fifth of barristers work at the employed Bar – that is, in house for a government organisation, a commercial company or a large charity, rather than being a self-employed tenant of a set of chambers. As such, there is a small number of pupillages available at the employed Bar. These are most commonly with the government’s legal trainee scheme, through which you will work for the Crown Prosecution Service or across government departments as part of the Government Legal Profession. The vast majority of pupillage opportunities, however, are with chambers.

Broadly speaking, many chambers specialise in one or two areas of law: commercial law, common law, criminal law and specialist fields. There are then further specialisations within each area: for example, commercial law breaks down into areas including banking, insurance, insolvency, international trade, company and media law.

Most chambers will not expect you to be fixed on a particular legal specialism before you apply – most commercial and common law sets will cover a broad range of specialisations and there are also some generalist sets. However, you should have a general idea, because in most cases it will be difficult to switch between commercial, common and criminal law after pupillage. It’s also important to articulate in your applications and interviews why you particularly want to be a pupil at that set.

This means that you need to research chambers carefully, both when choosing where to apply and before sitting down to submit your application. Let our checklist guide your thinking.

Answer these questions…

• Which areas of legal practice does the chambers specialise in? (The A–Z of chambers from page 25 can help.)
• Who are the key members of the chambers and what are they known for? For example, what key cases they been involved with recently?
• What is the chambers’ reputation within the legal profession, for example how does it rank in Chambers and Partners?
• Which other chambers does it particularly compete with for work?
• Has it undergone any significant changes recently, for example a merger or change of location?
• Where is it based?
• How does it structure its pupillage? For example, do you sit with a number of pupil supervisors to gain experience of different specialisms? Are you guaranteed work in your second six (the ‘practising’ part of pupillage)?
• What are the details of its pupillage award (your earnings as a pupil)?
• How do you apply: for example, through the online Pupillage Gateway system or via CV and covering letter? Do you need to have completed an assessed mini-pupillage with the chambers before you apply?
• Which skills, strengths and behaviours does it seek in potential pupils (and do you need to go and develop any of these further)?
• Does it have a history of offering tenancy to a good number of pupils?

Reach out for your research
This publication is a great place to start your research: turn to the A−Z of chambers from page 25. However, also take every opportunity you can to speak to barristers and pupils. Some chambers offer open evenings, designed to give prospective pupils an introduction to the work and the people; many chambers also attend law careers fairs, such as the targetjobs National Pupillage Fair. You can also reach out to individual barristers via LinkedIn to ask for any insights into working life or getting pupillage. But one of the best ways to get a feel for a particular set and whether it would be a good match for you is by completing a mini-pupillage (three to five days’ work experience) with them. 😊
Operated and owned by the Bar Council, the Pupillage Gateway allows you to apply to multiple sets at once. The system enables you to search for pupillages using a wide range of criteria and gives you a longer period in which to prepare your applications – you are able to work with a generic application template before submissions open. You will be able to tailor your applications to individual chambers or authorised training organisations (ATOs).

How to apply
All pupillage vacancies are required to be advertised on the Pupillage Gateway. You can browse all vacancies via the ‘Search and Apply’ option and may apply to up to 20 different sets of chambers or ATOs via the Gateway. Each advert will include information such as chambers’ practice areas, funding for pupillage and details of mini-pupillages. Although all vacancies will be viewable on site, not all chambers and ATOs will actually recruit through the Gateway – please see adverts for preferred application methods and deadlines.
A busy January

The 2024 timetable will be available at www.pupillagegateway.com. Candidates will be able to submit applications between 3 January 2024 and 7 February 2024 and adverts will be live from 27 November 2023.

Afterwards the system will close to allow chambers and ATOs to review applications and arrange interviews. Offers will be made to successful candidates in May. If you have any queries about the Pupillage Gateway, email pupillagegateway@barcouncil.org.uk.

“You can apply to up to 20 sets through the Bar Council’s website between January and February.”
What to include on your pupillage application
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f you have completed mini-pupillages you may already have had a taste of one or several types of law. Perhaps you are fascinated by the financial structures of the City, or have a burning desire to champion human rights through the courts? Maybe the variety of the criminal court takes your fancy? By the time you begin your pupillage applications, you should have a good idea of which broad area of practice best matches your interests and skills.

Then comes the more difficult part: applying for a pupillage. If you are set on being a particular type of barrister, you may wish to apply only to specialist sets dealing in this area. If so, you’ll find chambers’ areas of expertise listed in their advertising profiles from page 25. However, if your thoughts are still a bit vague you would be best off applying to chambers with a broader range of practice areas, allowing for later specialisation once you’ve got a better feel for things.

Find your motivation

You need to be completely sure of your decision to become a barrister and be able to give good reasons when questioned about it on your application and at interview. The best way to explain your motivation is by relating it to previous legal work experience and extracurricular activities. Your mini-pupillages should have provided you with inspiration for your reasons. Think back to what you did, who you met and what you learned from your experiences, and explain how these relate to your career choice. What was enjoyable and what was difficult? What strengths and weaknesses did you discover and how do these explain your motivation for a career at the Bar? If you have other kinds of work experience, such as vacation schemes at solicitors’ firms or time spent at other kinds of businesses, what made you realise you didn’t want to go down those career routes? Remember, you need to be convinced by your reasons before you can convince others!

Recruiters don’t just have one thing on their minds. Your personal interests and hobbies say as much about your approach to life as your career aspirations, and it’s important to sell these areas to recruiters.

‘The form puts the power in the hands of the candidate – you don’t need to tell anyone about the mistakes you’ve made or the areas you don’t know about,’ advises Lucy Garrett KC, barrister at Keating Chambers. ‘Find some glowing examples of advocacy. That doesn’t need to be mooting (which is fine) – teaching English as a foreign language, being head of the students’ union, organising events at your university or heading up a meeting in a political party are all brilliant examples of advocacy.’ If you’re wondering what to include, turn the page for some handy ideas.
Commercial awareness
This is about developing an awareness and understanding of the real world where academic solutions are rarely practical. Aspiring commercial barristers need an appreciation of business transactions. Equally, those working with private clients must suggest financially viable courses of action. On a more personal note, self-employment requires an ability to market your own services whenever possible to keep winning work. You may need the services of an accountant to make sure your own money is kept in order.

Public appearances
Advocacy is the bread and butter of a barrister’s job so make sure you highlight any occasions where you have spoken in public. Ideally, this would be through debating societies, mooting competitions or volunteering with legal charities such as the Free Representation Unit (FRU) or Citizens Advice. Nevertheless, many other activities, such as acting, are equally demonstrative of a familiarity with public speaking. Some universities also run modules or in-house courses on public speaking to help you hone your skills.

Being proactive and using your initiative
This is a favourite with chambers, who look for examples of initiative, determination and organisational skills. Travelling the world, backpacking holidays and any time spent living abroad show these skills, plus the ability to get along with others, cope with the unexpected and think on your feet in different cultures.

Mini-pupillages
These involve shadowing a barrister for three to five days and are available all year. They are an ideal way to gain an insight into life at the Bar. Assessed mini-pupillages have been adopted by some sets. These involve setting the mini-pupil a piece of written work to complete and are for people seriously considering applying to that chambers. The recommendation is to complete up to three mini-pupillages in chambers with broad areas of practice, unless you know what area of law you intend to practise, in which case you would be wise to target your applications. Bear in mind, though, that the academic study of law is often very different from its practice.

Work experience
This could be legal or non-legal (ideal candidates will do a combination of both). Time spent shadowing a judge (commonly called ‘marshalling’) enables you to see court proceedings from their perspective, discuss cases and learn from the barristers’ mistakes. Marshalling typically lasts a week and is available to university and law school students, as well as pupils. The Inns of Court can arrange this. If you’re still unsure about which legal career route to go down, it can’t hurt to do a vacation scheme or work shadowing at a law firm – this will give you something to talk about when asked ‘Why the Bar?’ at pupillage interviews.
Part-time, casual and vacation work
Many students mistakenly dismiss their experiences of working in a restaurant or shop as unsuitable or not of interest to pupillage committees. Part-time and holiday jobs give you valuable skills such as the ability to deal with (sometimes difficult) customers, work long hours under pressure, cope with the more mundane aspects of a job, and be organised and responsible. Numeracy skills often come with work experience too, as does commercial acumen.

Pro bono and other voluntary work
Many chambers carry out pro bono work and any evidence you can provide to show a commitment to this area will be welcome. This could include working for FRU by providing free assistance to those unable to obtain legal aid or helping out at a Citizens Advice or law centre. As Daniel Hallstrom, assistant legal officer at FRU, pointed out at the targetjobs National Pupillage Fair: ‘What you, as a volunteer, get out of it are a range of practical skills, real experiences of real cases and useful examples that you can use in applications come pupillage application time. As a FRU volunteer, you are almost entirely responsible for the conduct of the case, subject to the supervision of a legal officer.’

Match your interests to the set
Make sure that you have researched each chambers and matched their specialisms to your interests – one of the most common easily avoidable mistakes is giving reasons for choosing a particular chambers that do not apply (for example, referring to an area of law that the chambers barely covers). Mention any experiences you’ve had that have helped you to determine which area of the Bar you would like to work in, or any particular skills and qualities of yours that you feel are suited to that specialism.

Academic achievements
Pupillage committees are looking for all-rounders and any academic prizes or outstanding achievements will help boost your application. Ben Smiley, barrister from 4 New Square, says: ‘You have to really enjoy analysing arguments, picking them apart, putting them back together and finding your own view. You have to have intellectual flexibility.’ If you’ve won an essay prize or similar, this will help demonstrate those abilities.

Enthusiasm
If you are positive about past experiences, sure about your career choice and eager to pursue a career at the Bar, you will go a long way towards convincing interviewers you are committed to the law. Always find the positive side to every situation and don’t dwell on any difficult patches, but don’t omit explanation of any glitches in your application. No one is perfect and resilience, self-awareness and determination to bounce back from adversity are great assets in any career. Enthusiasm is infectious and will make your application sparkle. 😊
It’s a common misconception that if you want to forge a successful career as a barrister you’ve got to head to London. While a substantial proportion of the country’s sets are based there, there are highly successful chambers located throughout England and Wales.

**Varied work**
There’s no clear line to be drawn between chambers within London and those outside but there are some noteworthy differences. Sets in the regions tend to have fairly broad practice bases, often undertaking criminal, commercial and common law work; in contrast, although there are some generalist sets in London, many are focused in a particular direction. If you want to work for an exclusively commercial law set, or for one with only one or two specialisms, most of them are based in London.

**Complex cases**
Working outside of London can boost your career prospects. There are solicitors’ firms all over the country that need to instruct barristers, many of which will prefer to select someone based in the area rather than paying for a barrister to travel out from London. The fact that there are fewer barristers in the regions to do this work may mean that you get your hands on more complex cases earlier in your career.

**Save on costs**
On average, pupillage awards are higher in London. However, this is partly because of the number of purely commercial sets based there, that typically pay substantial sums. When you compare like with like you’ll find that there’s not a great deal of difference – plus, the cost of living will be lower outside London. Once you’re a tenant there’s no reason why you shouldn’t earn as much as or more than London-based barristers doing similar work.

**Legal circuitry**
England and Wales are divided into six ‘circuits’ on which barristers work: Midland, North Eastern, Northern, South Eastern, Wales and Chester, and Western. You’ll tend to work in the courts of whichever circuit your chambers is based in, although this isn’t always the case; even barristers based in London will find that their practice may involve a lot of travel around the regions. Most sets are found in major cities,
although a number of smaller cities and large towns also have one or two. Bristol, Leeds, Birmingham and Manchester are particularly well known for being centres of legal activity.

**No more Tube trouble**

Travelling is part and parcel of a barrister’s job and can be time-consuming but that will be the case wherever you’re based – London is part of the South Eastern circuit, so barristers based in the capital are likely to be sent to courts throughout this large area.

If you work outside London you’re likely to be able to afford to live closer to chambers, ensuring that when you’re not in court your commute is a short one.

**Practice makes perfect**

You don’t have to go to your Inn of Court in London to attend training – the circuits run the compulsory advocacy and advice to counsel courses, which you must complete during pupillage, and also the new practitioners’ programme (turn the page for more information). The circuits also organise further training, conferences and social events so you’ll be able to meet barristers from other chambers in your area.
"The ICCA has the highest average passing rate across both Litigation subjects and all sittings to date ... The ICCA is, thus far, some way ahead of the other AETO centres in terms of cohort performance”

BSB CEB Chair’s Report, 6 July 2023, p.46

With 97% of our 2021 graduates having secured pupillage and with the highest BSB centrally set assessment pass rates of all Bar training providers, the ICCA Bar Course is designed to enable you to achieve your ambition to become a barrister.

To start your Bar training with the ICCA in either September 2024 or January 2025, apply via our website from 16 October 2023 to 15 January 2024.

We look forward to welcoming you to the innovative and outstanding two-part ICCA Bar Course.

icca.ac.uk/icca-bar-course

Outstanding Bar training for Future Barristers
Once you’ve completed pupillage the next step is to secure tenancy – a permanent base from which to practise. Tenants are so called because, although they’re self-employed, all barristers must belong to a set of chambers, where they pay a certain sum to cover rent, facilities and wages for the support staff.

As in every profession, barristers will need to keep their skills set and specialist areas of knowledge updated and refreshed. All newly qualified barristers are required to complete the new practitioners’ programme (NPP) during their first three years of independent practice. On completion of the NPP, barristers will then be expected to complete the established practitioners’ programme (EPP).

**Completing the NPP**

Within the first three years of practice, newly qualified barristers are required to complete a minimum of 45 hours of continuing professional development (CPD). This must include a minimum of nine hours of advocacy training and three hours of ethics.

**Completing the EPP**

After completing the NPP, the next step for barristers is the established practitioners’ programme. Since January 2017, barristers have not been required to complete a minimum number of accredited hours for the EPP and the responsibility is on the individual to select topics for their CPD, rather than following a prescribed course.

**What counts towards your CPD?**

To claim CPD hours, activities can include workshops, conferences, lectures, seminars, online tutorials and residential courses. Courses are usually offered by chambers, Inns, the circuits, specialist Bar associations and authorised external providers. For the EPP, barristers can also gain for the following activities:

- lecturing on undergraduate law, Bar and conversion courses
- writing/contributing to legal publications, articles or practice notes
- attending/contributing to unaccredited courses directly relevant to practise as a barrister (including the Bar course and any compulsory training courses)
- other activities approved in advance by the education and training departments of the Bar Council.

For more details about CPD, see [www.barstandardsboard.org.uk](http://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk).

**Help with course costs**

The first few years post-qualification can be financially difficult for many barristers. The Bar Standards Board is very proactive in trying to keep course costs affordable. Chambers are also encouraged to provide financial provision for new practitioners and many of the specialist Bar associations and circuits will offer courses at reasonable rates. Equally, some external providers will provide discounts on request or will offer reduced course rates for new practitioners.

“Newly qualified barristers are required to complete a minimum of 45 hours of continuing professional development.”
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Type of work undertaken

Atkin Chambers is a leading set of commercial barristers with an international reputation for providing advocacy and specialist legal advice on cases concerning construction and engineering, energy, technology and major infrastructure projects.

Disputes are extremely varied and include transport, power, water/sanitation, shipbuilding and offshore construction, and social infrastructure projects. Wider commercial and professional negligence work is frequently related to such disputes.

The members of Atkin Chambers offer a huge breadth and depth of experience in disputes which are often complex both in terms of the law and the technical nature of the underlying dispute. They are recognised as being leaders in their field. In the UK members regularly appear as advocates before the Appellate Courts and High Court, as well as in commercial arbitrations.

Disputes are often commercially and/or politically sensitive and high-profile, and have included landmark UK cases such as disputes relating to The Shard, Wembley Stadium, the Olympic Village, the Channel Tunnel, The British Library, The Rolls Building, Heathrow T5, the M25 and London Underground.

International work is equally substantial with major transport infrastructure and energy projects being a common feature, and disputes are frequently cross-border and/or involving parties from several jurisdictions.

Atkin Chambers won “Construction and Energy Set of the Year” at The 2022 Legal 500 UK Bar Awards.

Application details

Pupillage applications are made through the centralised Pupillage Gateway scheme in the January and February of the calendar year before the pupillage is due to start (i.e. applications in January 2024 will be for pupillage commencing in September 2025). Dates for first and second interviews usually take place during March/April.

The first-round interview comprises a 15–20 minute discussion with a panel of interviewers about matters arising out of the interviewees’ application form. They are provided with a topic of legal/general interest on which they are asked to deliver a short presentation to the panel to test the applicant’s ability to think on their feet, their analytical skills and oral advocacy. Questions from the panel follow.

Approximately twelve applicants are then invited to the second-round interview. The applicants receive a short set of written papers in advance of the interview, on which they are asked to draft a skeleton argument and make oral submissions to the interview panel. Questions are then asked in relation to that legal problem. The second-round interview lasts approximately thirty minutes.
Type of work undertaken

2 Bedford Row is a leading set of chambers, with members who specialise in Criminal, Fraud, Health & Safety, Regulatory and Sports law. Members of Chambers practise in the UK as well as all across the world, particularly in multi-jurisdictional criminal investigations. Members of Chambers, from silks to working pupils, routinely prosecute and defend in the most high-profile cases in the country. Prosecution work includes instructions from the CPS, HMRC and other major government departments and regulatory bodies.

2 Bedford Row has consistently been ranked by Chambers UK and Legal 500 as a top set and has been ever-present in ‘Band 1’ for criminal and fraud sets. Chambers has been awarded ‘Criminal Set of the Year’ on a number of occasions in recent times, along with the individual awards given to members of Chambers in criminal and regulatory fields, including ‘Silk of the Year’ and ‘Junior of the Year’. Chambers won the ‘Crime and Extradition Set of the Year’ award at the Legal 500 Bar Awards in October 2022.

Pupillage

Pupils will experience a wide variety of court work in their first six months. As well as undertaking paperwork for their pupil supervisors and other members of Chambers, whilst in their second six months, pupils can expect to be in court virtually every day, conducting cases in the Crown and Magistrates courts. Chambers offer structured advocacy training throughout the pupillage year. Virtually all of our pupils become tenants here or elsewhere.

Application details

Pupillage Applications should be made through the Pupillage Gateway. 2 Bedford Row place particular emphasis on the interviewing of applicants rather than selection on academic achievement alone. We have vacancies up to four 12 month pupils each year and have offered 6 Junior tenancies in last 3 years. Pupils wishing to be considered for tenancy will be asked to complete a Third Six pupillage prior to consideration of any tenancy application.

We also offer a large number of mini-pupillages per year for a week’s duration. Please visit our website for details on how to apply.
Description of Chambers

Routinely ranked as one of the top chambers for family law by the major guides to the legal profession, we can justifiably lay claim to being the most modern and dynamic of the top specialist family law sets. Our record of recruitment from amongst our own pupils is second-to-none, and our pupils – both those who are recruited, and those who are not – comment on the thoroughness of the training they receive here, and the friendliness of the set as a place in which to complete their training. As an organisation, our belief, and experience, is that the source of our ongoing success is in our pupils and junior members. The level of our pupillage award and our commitment to the pupillage programme is a testament to the strength of that belief.

The Legal 500 describes us as a “an excellent set” with “great strength in depth” and a reputation for being “the top chambers for family law matters”. Chambers & Partners is in a similar vein, describing us as a set with “demonstrable strength at silk and junior level that assists clients in both children and divorce proceedings” with “sought after” members. Many members, both silks and juniors, are individually listed as leaders in the field in both directories.


Areas of work

We offer specialist knowledge in every aspect of family law. Work is largely based in London and the South East, but all members practise nationwide with many practitioners practising regularly in Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol and the other main regional centres. We boast a strong team of top-flight matrimonial finance practitioners, dealing with domestic and international cases. We have expertise in all aspects of the law relating to children; including abduction and adoption. In public law cases we act for parents, local authorities and guardians. We also specialise in work arising out of the Civil Partnership Act 2004, TLATA and the Inheritance Act.

Who should apply?

If you are interested in pursuing a career at the Bar specialising in family law and practising at the highest level, then 29BR is the ideal choice for you.

Pupillage programme

Up to two 12-month pupillages are available with awards of £42,500. Pupillage will normally be spent with three supervisors and all pupils are encouraged to attend court with other members of chambers. Pupils can expect to be in court (and earning) on a regular basis during their second six.

When and how to apply

Chambers is a member of the Pupillage Gateway. Applications should be submitted in accordance with the Pupillage Gateway timetable.

Mini-pupillages

We offer mini-pupillages. To apply please complete the application form on our website.
Type of work undertaken
Chambers occupies newly renovated premises which provides us with an enhanced and more modern working environment to meet the needs of barristers and their clients in the 21st century. We offer a friendly and supportive environment in which to complete a pupillage. We specialize in a varied field of law, with a focus on the following areas:
- Commercial: financial/business law, international trade, banking, regulatory, insurance, conflicts, media and entertainment, sport, intellectual property and professional negligence, EU and competition.
- Employment: all aspects (including discrimination) are covered by the extensive employment law practices of members of Chambers.
- Public law: incorporates judicial review, acting both for and against central and local government agencies and other regulatory authorities, human rights, other aspects of administrative law and commercial judicial review.

Pupillage
Successful pupils will have completed an assessed mini pupillage as a part of the Pupillage recruitment process. Blackstone Chambers offers up to four 12-month pupillages. Successful candidates will have demonstrated high intellectual ability and will usually have at least 2.1 honours degrees, although not necessarily in law. Individual awards of £75,000 are available. The pupillage committee has discretion to consider applications for up to £22,500 of the pupillage award to be advanced during the BPC year.

Upon commencing pupillage, pupils attend an induction week. Thereafter pupils will spend 12 months split between four supervisors, and will see the varied practices of members of Chambers including commercial, employment, European and public law/human rights through their pupillages.

A new tenant can expect a busy and wide-ranging practice with opportunities to specialise later.

Application details
We have made some changes to our application procedure this year, following a review of our process. From 2023, we will no longer be inviting applications for mini-pupillage before the Pupillage Gateway opens. Instead, all applications for pupillage commencing in September 2025 will be made through the Pupillage Gateway, which will open for applications on 3 January 2024 and close on 7 February 2024.

The other main change to our procedure is that there will no longer be any interviews for mini-pupillage. Additional competency-based questions on our Pupillage Gateway application form will now provide candidates with the opportunity to demonstrate their aptitude for a pupillage with us. We will invite the top ranked applicants – around 50 of them – to do an assessed mini-pupillage between late February and mid April 2024.

Since we require an assessed mini-pupillage as part of the overall pupillage applications procedure, we offer financial assistance either in respect of out-of-pocket travelling or out-of-pocket accommodation expenses incurred in attending the mini-pupillage. This is up to a maximum of £250 per mini-pupil.

After all mini-pupillages have been completed the Pupillage Committee will select a small group of around 10 candidates to be invited to a final pupillage interview. Final interviews will take place in late April 2024. We will offer pupillages to 4 candidates, and one reserve candidate, on 10 May 2024.

If you have any queries regarding your pupillage application please send them to pupillage@blackstonechambers.com. Further information is also available on our website – www.blackstonechambers.com.
Overview
Crown Office Chambers is a leading civil and commercial set with over 105 members and 26 highly rated KCs. Pupils will have the opportunity to learn from and work with distinguished counsel across a range of different practice areas, in a modern and friendly setting.

Pupils are welcomed as an integral part of Chambers life from the moment they arrive, and expected to show the motivation, dedication and intelligence which are the hallmarks of a first-class barrister. We look for outstanding law and non-law candidates, as well as a flair for the oral and written presentation of complex legal arguments. Applicants from underrepresented groups are particularly welcomed.

Our work
Crown Office Chambers prides itself on depth of expertise across a broad range of common law and commercial practice areas, including construction, commercial litigation, professional negligence, property damage, insurance and reinsurance, clinical negligence, health and safety, inquests and public inquiries.

Application
Crown Office Chambers is a member of the Pupillage Gateway. Please refer to the Pupillage Gateway website for further information including the recruitment timetable.

We offer up to three 12-month pupillages a year. Each pupillage carries an award of £75,000, £20,000 of which may be drawn down in advance. Pupils also keep their second six earnings, which can be substantial.

We emphasise that pupils are not in competition with one another. Tenancy will be offered to all those who meet the required high standard.

Pupils will sit with two supervisors during the first six months. In the second six months, pupils sit with a third supervisor, as well as accepting regular instructions in their own right in order to gain firsthand trial advocacy experience, which is a key feature of Chambers’ expertise.

While not a prerequisite for the grant of pupillage, mini pupillages are encouraged. More information about mini-pupillage and our assessment criteria can be found on our website: www.crownofficechambers.com

If you have any further questions, please contact the Pupillage Secretary at pupillage@crownofficechambers.com.

Equal opportunities
Crown Office Chambers is an Equal Opportunities employer and adheres to an Equality & Diversity statement, available on our website. We welcome applications from all groups and make reasonable adjustments for disabled candidates.
THE PUPIL EXPERIENCE
Annie Mackley

University: University of Cambridge (2019)

Degrees: BA Jurisprudence, Double First Class, LLM, First Class with Distinction

Current position: Called to the Bar in 2020 and became a tenant at Crown Office Chambers in 2021 following successful completion of pupillage

How did you choose Crown Office Chambers?
I chose Crown Office Chambers because I wanted to experience a wide range of practice areas during pupillage – I wasn’t quite sure what would suit me best and Crown Office Chambers is one of few sets which has very high quality practices in both commercial/insurance law and, conversely, personal injury, inquest/inquiry and regulatory law. I also found the transparency and structure of Crown Office Chambers’ pupillage process very appealing and felt that it would be an excellent place to train and, hopefully, to practise as a barrister.

What was your experience of pupillage?
Pupillage was a really interesting and stimulating year. I was involved in a very wide variety of work, including construction, commercial, insurance, personal injury, clinical negligence and criminal and regulatory work. At the same time, I felt able to express an interest in particular fields and my supervisors and other members of chambers went out of their way to encourage my interest in those areas. Feedback was provided in a very structured way throughout, so I knew what I needed to work on and what I was doing well. I particularly enjoyed my practising second six, where we began taking on our own cases and could put our advocacy skills to the test – I particularly benefited from the support and training provided by other junior barristers in chambers.

There is no denying that pupillage can be a challenging year but Crown Office Chambers did everything possible to make it a supportive and open process throughout the year. A few measures included clearly signposting the process of assessment, supervisors looking out for pupils’ work-life balance, and making sure that each pupil has mentors among the junior barristers who have no part in the tenancy decision process. That supportive and friendly environment has continued into tenancy. I think junior tenants feel well-supported by each other and more senior colleagues – there is always someone on the end of the phone or to ask questions of at our weekly Chambers drinks. The tenancy decision and beyond

The tenancy decision at Crown Office Chambers comes at the end of a transparent and well-structured programme of formal and informal assessment, with regular feedback provided along the way. There is no competition for tenancy between pupils – all pupils are taken on in the hopes that they will secure tenancy and will be given tenancy provided they meet the required standard. In my own cohort, all three pupils were given tenancy (as was also the case this year) and it has been wonderful to continue in practice alongside my former co-pupils.

Since taking tenancy, I have continued to develop my practice in personal injury, clinical negligence and inquest law and I am finding it very interesting and rewarding. Even at a very junior stage, I am frequently instructed on high profile and high value matters and have been given fantastic opportunities to work with and learn from more senior members of chambers.

Interestingly, my two co-pupils are developing very different practices in construction, commercial and insurance law but all three of us have been given great opportunities to develop our practices at a very early stage with the help of colleagues and our fantastic clerking team.
Type of work undertaken

Enterprise Chambers is ranked amongst the leading sets at the Chancery Commercial Bar in fields spanning from insolvency and company law to real property litigation and general commercial-chancery practice. Chambers has a strong bias towards litigation, and its barristers (from the most junior to the most senior) tend to have a firmly court-centred practice. New tenants have the opportunity to become experts in those fields of litigation, without overly narrowing the breadth of their practice or being forced to choose just one limited field from the outset. Chambers values the ability of its members to approach problems in a manner which is both intellectually rigorous and practically grounded, and prides itself on its unstuffy and client-friendly reputation.

As a long-established but forward thinking set, Chambers comprises 30 members in London, plus highly successful branches in Bristol, Leeds and Newcastle.

The core areas of Chambers’ practice comprise the following chancery commercial disciplines:

- Insolvency and Company comprising all aspects of the insolvency of companies, partnerships and individuals; directors’ duties; fraudulent and wrongful trading and other misconduct; international and cross-border insolvency; and shareholders’ disputes.
- Property including both real property law and landlord and tenant practice. The former covers issues arising from the sale of land, land registration, mortgages, easements, adverse possession, and property fraud, amongst others. The latter covers issues arising from leases of all types, whether business, agricultural or social housing tenancies.
- Commercial covering general contractual disputes and issues arising from the sale of goods, banking, guarantees, consumer credit, business finance, insurance, carriage of goods, civil fraud, professional negligence, aspects of regulation, and private international law.
- Equitable Remedies covering injunctions (including freezing injunctions and search orders), specific performance, and issues arising from constructive trusts, fiduciary duties, fraud and tracing, restitution, estoppel, rectification and rescission.

Application details

We offer one 12 month pupillage in London at £65,000 with second six earnings included. Chambers is happy to consider requests for pupils to draw down part of their award for the BPTC year. Further details of our funding can be obtained by contacting Chambers. An additional pupillage may be available in Bristol, Leeds and/or Newcastle, details to which will be provided when the pupillage portal opens.

Our aim is to make pupillage as stimulating and enjoyable as possible, and to prepare pupils for a successful practice at the bar. To that end, pupils in their second six are usually offered real advocacy experience at an appropriate level, with the support of Chambers. Pupils will have a minimum of four pupil supervisors and will be encouraged to do work for other members of chambers in order to give them the best exposure across all areas of Chambers’ practice.

We aim to recruit our junior tenants from our pupils. We therefore look to offer pupillage to those candidates who have the potential to succeed as life-long tenants in Chambers. Applications are invited from candidates with a minimum 2:1 degree or equivalent. As part of the recruitment process, candidates are usually invited to spend a short period as mini-pupils in chambers. Outside the recruitment process, two day mini-pupillages are available on application.
JUNIOR TENANT EXPERIENCE
Samuel Hodge

University: Oxford University, and Queen Mary University of London

Degrees: Philosophy and Theology (Oxford, 2011-14); Law (QMUL, 2014-16); BCL (Oxford, 2016-17)

Current position: Tenant, Commercial Chancery

I started at Enterprise Chambers, London in October 2019 after completing my pupillage. I have done a wide variety of work during my first year in practice, mainly focussing on insolvency, commercial, and landlord & tenant work. I have a busy paper practice (e.g. writing opinions, and drafting statements of case), and am often in court – usually around 2 or 3 times a week. I have appeared the High Court on a number of occasions both led and unled, and am often in county courts around London and elsewhere.

Typical work at the junior end includes acting on winding-up and bankruptcy petitions, possession proceedings, short interim applications, and some small claims or fast track trials. There can also be the opportunity to be led on some more substantial cases, which is both exciting and a great opportunity to learn. A good variety of work comes into Chambers which means juniors get the chance to work in a range of areas. Beyond my usual practice areas, I have also had the chance to act on committal applications, protection from harassment trials, and applications in the High Court Family Division.

Enterprise Chambers is a fantastic place to work, and there is a real spirit of camaraderie here. There is a good level of support for juniors who are just starting out in their own practice, both from other members and our clerks. Beginning my own practice was a steep learning curve; it is hard, but rewarding, work. Right from the start of second six, you are sent to court and given the opportunity to develop your advocacy in your own right.

THE PUPIL EXPERIENCE
Mairi Innes

University: Cambridge

Degree: BA Law (First Class)

Current position: Tenant, commercial chancery

I was a pupil at Enterprise Chambers from October 2017 to October 2018. I found my pupillage enjoyable yet challenging, and everyone at Enterprise made me feel very welcome.

During my pupillage I sat with four supervisors for about three months each. This gave me a good experience of work from across the areas of practice in which Chambers specialises, being insolvency, Property and Commercial Chancery. My work involved shadowing my supervisors on their current cases and attending court and conferences with them, as well as assisting with legal research. I also had the opportunity to attend court with more junior tenants, which allowed me to see the kind of work that I would be doing when I became a tenant.

Throughout my pupillage I attended social events with the rest of Chambers, including Chambers tea which generally takes place daily at 4pm. I was able therefore to meet the other members of Chambers in a more informal environment and I was impressed by how friendly and approachable the other members were.

Enterprise Chambers is relatively unique among Chancery sets because pupils in their second six months of pupillage are encouraged to take on their own work. Once my “second six” had started, I started doing some basic hearings. This opportunity proved invaluable, as I was able to build up my own practice under the supervision and guidance of my supervisors. When I was taken on as junior tenant in October 2018, therefore, I already had some court experience and the transition to being a fully practising member of Chambers was not so daunting.
Type of work undertaken

Our highly skilled criminal law barristers regularly appear in the Court of Appeal, High Court, Crown Court and Magistrates’ Court. They are instructed by both defence solicitors and prosecuting agencies and combine first class legal knowledge with formidable courtroom advocacy. Our barristers are experienced in dealing with young and vulnerable witnesses; they provide effective handling and management of complex papers and sensitive issues.

Described as expert, accessible, knowledgeable and friendly, we have represented clients in many high-profile cases, often attracting national and international publicity. Our barristers practise in England and Wales and overseas jurisdictions, including the Channel Islands and the Turks and Caicos. We also provide advice to commercial organisations and individuals prior to charge and during the investigatory stages of a case.

Application details

Chambers offers two twelve month pupillages each year. We provide training and assessment for completion of both the non-practising period of pupillage (6 months), and completion of the practising period of pupillage (6 months) in accordance with the BSB Professional Statement Competencies and Bar Qualification Manual.

Chambers awards £15,000 for the first six months of pupillage and guarantees £15,000 minimum earnings for the second six months. Chambers will cover all travel expenses outside of London for the duration of pupillage, and the costs of compulsory training courses.

Upon satisfactory completion of the 12 month pupillage, pupils are invited to complete a six month probationary tenancy in Chambers to further develop their skills before applying for tenancy. The great majority of tenants are recruited from those who have done a 12 month pupillage here. We offer pupillages only to those who we believe have the potential to become tenants and our policy is to offer tenancy to all pupils who meet the required standard during their pupillage.

Recruitment Process

Chambers conducts its recruitment process in accordance with the Equality Act 2010, the Bar Council Fair Recruitment Guide, and the BSB Handbook Equality Rules. Opportunities are open to all qualified candidates and we seek to recruit from the largest possible pool of available talent. We encourage applications from those from non-traditional or disadvantaged backgrounds.

When selecting pupils, we look for highly motivated candidates with strong analytical ability, demonstrable interest in the field of criminal law, sound practical and ethical judgement and the potential to be an outstanding advocate.

All Gateway application forms are assessed by three different individuals. Applicants achieving a sufficient aggregate score are invited to a first round interview. The first round panel will score each candidate against the criteria above and recommend a small number for a second round interview, after which offers will be made to successful applicants through the Gateway.
About us
39 Essex Chambers is one of the country’s biggest and best chambers, leading the field in pretty much every civil field imaginable. We are ranked in Chambers & Partners in 21 categories: we have 162 members: 56 silks, and 106 juniors: 29 percent of our silks and 43 percent of our juniors are women. We are proud of the diversity of our chambers, although we strive to do better: we are actively seeking to increase representation from all groups currently under-represented at the bar.

Type of work
Chambers has four broad practice groups: commercial/construction, including arbitration; public law, including Court of Protection and regulatory teams; civil liability which includes personal injury, product liability, insurance and clinical negligence; and environment and planning including property law. We also cover inquiry work – we have played a leading part in the Grenfell and Infected Blood Inquiries and have a large team involved in the Covid Inquiry – as well as being home to a growing costs team.

Chambers aims to provide a one-stop-shop for clients and encourages members to develop broad practices while also supporting those who wish to specialise in one particular field to do so.

Who should apply?
We welcome applicants of all ages, backgrounds, physical abilities and educational origins. We are looking for academic high achievers: we do not generally interview people with lower than a 2:1 unless there are genuinely extenuating circumstances.

Pupillage
We generally offer three pupillages each year via the pupillage gateway. Applications can be made from Wednesday, 3 January 2024 at 12:01am to Wednesday, 7 February 2024 at 11:59pm. We encourage applicants to attend a mini-pupillage at chambers wherever possible: Successful completion of mini-pupillage with us is not, however, mandatory for those seeking pupillage.

Pupillage begins on the first Monday of September each year. We provide a generous pupillage award of £70,000, £5,000 of which is guaranteed earnings.

Pupils will complete four seats – public law, commercial/construction, civil liability and property, environment and planning. Each seat is assessed with clear feedback provided at frequent intervals. Pupils are expected to undertake their own work during their second six.

Our pupils are not in competition with one another. The hope and anticipation is that all who meet the required standard will be offered tenancy. We operate a strict 9am to 6pm working hours policy during pupillage which should be a nurturing, learning experience. Our goal is to equip our future tenants with the skills to maintain a healthy work-life balance and a long and successful career at the bar.
Overview
Essex Court Chambers is a leading set of barristers’ chambers, which offers at least four funded, twelve-month, tenancy seeking-pupillages per year. Each pupillage carries an award of £75,000. Of that sum, £45,000 is payable in monthly instalments in the first six months and the balance in equal monthly instalments in the second six months. Up to an overall maximum of £23,000 may be drawn down in advance (eg for the BPTC year and/or for relevant post graduate study).

We offer guaranteed minimum gross earnings of £100,000 in the first year of tenancy (although, in practice, many will earn considerably in excess of this figure).

Our work
We specialise in commercial litigation, arbitration, public law and public international law. Our members have expertise in all areas of commercial law and handle disputes across the full spectrum of the business and financial world, including banking & finance, civil fraud, insurance & reinsurance, energy, trade and employment.

Our members act in the full spectrum of UK-based litigation, from County Court hearings to substantial High Court trials and appeals before the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court and Privy Council, as well as specialist tribunals and public inquiries. They also regularly appear before the European Courts, and advise on and act in arbitrations and disputes around the world, including in Africa, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. It is the international scope of the work undertaken by our members that differentiates it from many other leading sets of commercial chambers.

Applications
Applications for pupillage with us should be made via the Pupillage Gateway and in accordance with the Gateway timetable. Applications from both law and non-law graduates are welcomed. A first class degree is not a requirement. Applicants are required to have obtained, or be predicted to obtain, at least a 2:1 degree; non-law graduates are required to have obtained, or be predicted to obtain, at least a Commendation in their GDL. We also welcome applications for deferred pupillage.

We strongly encourage anyone who is seriously considering applying for pupillage with us to apply, once they are in their second year or above of undergraduate law degrees or on a law conversion course, for a mini-pupillage. We also run an annual Student Open Day (open to those of any discipline from first year undergraduate upwards) who wish to gain an insight into life at the Commercial Bar.

We are committed to equality of opportunity and will consider any requests for reasonable adjustments to assist disabled applicants.

Full information about our pupillage application process, mini-pupillage with us and the Student Open Day is available at www.essexcourt.com.
I

THE PUPIL EXPERIENCE
Lorraine Aboagye

Graduation 2015.
University University of Southampton.
Subject European Legal Studies (with French Law).

Why Essex Court Chambers?
In addition to its status as a leading set at the Commercial Bar, I greatly enjoyed my mini-pupillage in Chambers, where I got the chance to work on some challenging, but very interesting commercial and public international law cases. Members of Chambers were also very welcoming and encouraging.

Application
Applications are made through the Pupillage Gateway. The selection process involves the written application, a pre-interview written exercise and a single interview. Candidates are given a legal problem half an hour in advance of the interview and the majority of the interview is spent discussing the problem with the panel.

Pupillage
Pupillage is broadly split into three parts. Before Christmas, pupils sit with their dedicated pupil supervisor where they are given a wide range of tasks related to the supervisor’s practice. In this first period, pupils are also given a series of talks by members of chambers on specialist areas of practice, aimed at providing pupils with a detailed review on new and often complex areas of law.

In January, pupils go on the “rota”, which involves sitting with other pupil supervisors and a number of silks, about six to eight barristers, for two to three weeks each. The rota is designed to give you an opportunity to experience a wide range of Chambers’ work and to learn from a number of barristers, thereby developing your skills. At the end of this, you return to your supervisor, who assesses your progression.

Pupillage also includes a number of internal training exercises, including a conference and pleading exercise, and 3 advocacy exercises, conducted by senior members of chambers. These are viewed as training exercises and pupils are able to practise and develop their advocacy skills with the assistance of senior members of chambers. Therefore, pupillage is not merely about assessment but is a learning process designed to educate and develop pupils.

The Tenancy Decision
The tenancy decision is made shortly after completion of the rota. It is made clear that there is no competition between pupils for a place and no limit on the number of pupils who can be offered tenancy. If a pupil meets the required standard, they will be offered tenancy. Regular appraisals during pupillage mean that pupils are aware of their progress at every stage during the process. Further, the tenancy decision is taken only by the members of chambers who have directly supervised pupils during pupillage.

Once the decision is made, pupils remain with their pupil supervisors, but have the opportunity to explore particular areas of practice they may be interested in. The focus here is preparing you for independent practice. If you have not been taken on, the early decision means you are able to quickly apply for third sixes.

Pupillage has been a rewarding experience. Members of Chambers recognise that pupillage is a demanding process for pupils and are very welcoming, friendly and supportive. Feedback is a crucial part of the process and supervisors give extensive feedback, aimed at allowing you to improve and produce your best work. Each pupil has a mentor, who is usually a junior barrister of under 5 years call and has no part to play in the tenancy decision process. Junior barristers are also excellent in providing support. I would encourage anyone with an interest in the Commercial Bar to apply for a mini-pupillage and/or pupillage, regardless of their background.
Type of work undertaken
We provide a full range of advisory and advocacy services in all areas of real property law and landlord & tenant law and write most of the leading textbooks in those areas.

What the Legal 500 & Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession have said about our work
‘Fantastic and high quality property specialists. You can not get a stronger set overall in this area.’ Legal 500 2023
‘Falcon are simply fabulous. The breadth and depth they cover in the property space can not be matched.’ Legal 500 2023
‘Falcon Chambers is unanimously viewed as the pre-eminent set in London for agricultural and rural affairs matters. Barristers at Falcon Chambers demonstrate capability across a broad range of issues and are particularly well regarded for their high-level rural property expertise.’ Chambers and Partners UK 2023

Application details
What we offer: Up to two 12-month pupillages each year, funded at the rate of up to £75,000 per annum, with up to £24,000 available to be drawn down in the year preceeding pupillage. In addition, in their second six months, pupils can expect to earn some additional income from their own work.

What we look for: Pupils who combine intellectual strength with strong advocacy potential.

How to apply: Applications for pupillage in Falcon Chambers should be made via the Pupillage Gateway.

Want to know more?: Please visit our website at www.falcon-chambers.com. E-mail pupillage@falcon-chambers.com or contact Imogen Dodds in chambers.

Mini-pupillages
Prospective pupils at Falcon Chambers are encouraged to apply for mini-pupillage. Structured mini-pupillages are available. Please e-mail MiniPupillage@falcon-chambers.com or visit our website for further details.
About Fountain Court
Fountain Court Chambers is a leading set with a friendly, progressive and modern outlook. Members of Chambers are recognised as leaders in the fields of commercial and regulatory disputes acting for clients both in the UK and overseas. As part of the ‘magic circle’, and with offices in London and Singapore, Fountain Court has 43 silks and 60 juniors specialising in a range of practice areas.

Chambers & Partners describe members at Fountain Court as “a really superb bunch of barristers”, whilst The Legal 500 comments that the set has “done a huge amount in recent years to promote and recruit women [which has made it] one of the most gender-diverse sets at the commercial bar.”

Why Fountain Court?
• Exposure to the most stimulating work
Pupils gain experience and work with members across all levels of seniority. Recent new tenants have even worked on Supreme Court cases with their supervisors.

• Working with the brightest advocates
Pupillage at Fountain Court is an opportunity to work with some of the brightest and most successful advocates in London.

• Pupils are not in competition with one another
We evaluate each pupil individually based on their own merit and all pupils who meet the relevant standard will be offered tenancy.

• An inclusive and supportive culture
We have a friendly, progressive and modern outlook. We want the best people to join us, regardless of background, race, gender or sexual orientation.

• First rate staffing support
As a leading set, we believe in providing the best service and our leading clerks and administrative team match the quality of our barristers.

Application details
We require you to complete a mini pupillage before applying for a pupillage and you should think about making an application the year before you intend to apply for pupillage. Applications for a mini pupillage should be made using the form available on the Fountain Court website. Applications for pupillage should be made through the Pupillage Gateway, a central clearing house for pupillage applications, which opens in January each year. Full application details can be found on our website: www.fountaincourt.co.uk.

Pupillage at Fountain Court
• Up to four pupillage places
• 12 months of training from the best at the Bar
• Four seats of three months’ duration
• First two months unassessed to allow time to settle in
• First and last three months are spent with the same supervisor
• All work undertaken is live case work
• Pupils are not in competition with each other
Types of work undertaken
Chambers was set up in 1974 by six young barristers determined that the spirit which inspired the early Law Centre movement should find a place at the Bar. A strong commitment to the Legal Aid system and to offering legal representation to those disadvantaged by poverty and discrimination formed our founding philosophy. Our areas of practice include Civil Actions Against the Police, Civil Liberties, Community Care, Criminal Defence, Employment, Environmental Law, Family Law, Gypsy and Traveller rights, Housing, Immigration, Mental Health, Nationality, Prison Law, Public and Administrative Law and Professional Negligence. Chambers now has 202 members with 30 KCs and, though our range of work and clientele is immeasurably broader, our original commitment remains and underpins our practice.

Application details
We offer four places on our comprehensive training during a structured 12-month pupillage. This will involve working with leading practitioners in at least three different areas of law. Pupils will be allocated a different supervisor for each six-month period. In the second six months of pupillage, our pupils tend to be in court on a daily basis. Additionally, pupils will benefit from internal courses in substantive law and advocacy.

The interview dates for shortlisted pupils from the Pupillage Gateway will be in April 2024. Candidates are encouraged to visit our website for details and to attend our Open Day on 25th November 2023.

Mini-pupillages – please refer to our website and twitter account for up-to-date information and dates about our upcoming mini pupillage weeks.

Student visits and sponsored student placements are not available.
Gatehouse Chambers is a successful, award-winning commercial barristers chambers with a reputation for high quality legal expertise, excellent administration and an approachable, business-focused style. This is consistently recognised in Chambers & Partners and Legal 500.

We are recognised as a leading chambers for training. We are also committed to providing first class facilities and won Best Chambers for Facilities at the Legal Cheek Awards in 2022 and 2023.

**Types of work undertaken**

We are a market leader in promoting equality, diversity and inclusion, winning awards for our work in these areas. In July 2021 we took on our current name having discovered its predecessor name (Hardwicke) was associated with a former Lord Chancellor who supported slavery.

Our main practice areas are:

- Commercial Dispute Resolution
- Construction
- Costs & Litigation Funding
- Inquests & Inquiries
- Insolvency
- Insurance
- Personal Injury & Clinical Negligence
- Private Client
- Professional Liability
- Property

**Pupillage**

We offer a pupillage award of £70,000 pa. We also fund attendance at the Bar Council’s compulsory courses and operate guaranteed earnings schemes for our first and second year members. We put a great deal of effort into providing on-going support and training. You will be treated as part of our team and included in Chambers events and receive introductions to clients. We have a strong open-door policy and ensure that our pupils feel they are able to approach any member of chambers. Our 12-month pupillages are split into three periods of four months. During each period, you will be assigned a pupil supervisor and other members of chambers with whom you will work. You will share the daily professional life of your pupil supervisor, producing pleadings and opinions on their cases, attending conferences and court hearings, and benefit from regular feedback.

Advocacy is a key component of a pupillage with us. We will provide you with in-house advocacy training, supervised by our members, many of whom are advocacy trainers at the Inns and/or part-time judges. During your second six months, you can expect to find yourself in court two to three days week. We look for pupils with exceptional intellectual ability, excellent communication skills and a genuine interest in our areas of work. You need to be confident and able to work both on your own and with others, and to demonstrate not only outstanding legal and analytical ability, but sound commercial good sense.

**Apply**

Applications should be made via The Bar Councils Pupillage Gateway.
Type of work undertaken
Chambers specialises in all aspects of consumer law. This is a diverse field that encompasses almost any interaction between retail businesses and the public and it is difficult to exaggerate the scope and day-to-day impact of consumer law.

Pupils in Chambers see the full spectrum of consumer law, from technical consumer finance and banking cases to criminal trading standards jury trials. Once in tenancy, members have the option of focussing on their preferred areas.

Chambers has long been considered the country’s leading set in consumer law and is ranked as the sole top tier set for consumer law by both Chambers & Partners and the Legal 500.

Chambers is also ranked as a leading set in financial services and banking.

Application details
Applications for pupillage starting in October 2025 should be made through the Pupillage Gateway system in accordance with the standard timetable.

Mini-pupillages are available.

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8 NEW SQUARE is the largest specialist intellectual property chambers in the United Kingdom. Chambers has 30 IP barristers, including 12 KCs. Their depth of knowledge and breadth of experience in intellectual property law, media and entertainment and IT law is second to none.

Our aim is to recruit the very best pupils who will stand an excellent chance of being offered tenancy.

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Chambers specialisation
• banking & finance • chancery • commercial • common law • criminal • information • insolvency • professional negligence • other

Tenants 30
Junior tenancies offered in last 3 years 1

Pupillage details
Up to two, 12 month pupillages, £75,000 including £37,500 guaranteed earnings.
Type of work undertaken

Do you think you might be interested in tax? Gray's Inn Tax Chambers is a leading set of chambers in the specialist field of revenue law.

What does that mean? Primarily you have to be a first-class lawyer: every aspect of the law is relevant to a tax practice – European law, company law, land law, the law of contract, employment, banking and insurance, trusts and estates – essentially anything which might be subject to tax.

When we award a pupillage we take our responsibilities very seriously. In addition to working with your pupil supervisor you will spend some time with perhaps a dozen members of chambers in order to gain experience of a wide range of work from the most junior to the most senior level. Our work is always practical in focus, and developing a good commercial understanding is extremely important.

Much of your time will be spent in chambers, reading the papers in matters on which a member of chambers is advising, gaining an understanding of the issues, and sitting in on conferences. The purpose is to develop the ability to discuss complex legal issues orally, which is an essential skill when advising in conference or when undertaking advocacy. We also place great emphasis on excellent written work, in particular opinion writing and drafting, and throughout pupillage there will be opportunities to impress in that way.

While the majority of our work is advisory, a practice at the Tax Bar also involves significant court and tribunal appearances. These are typically never more than a few days in duration but could be at any level, so in addition to the specialist tax courts you may have the opportunity to attend the Court of Appeal and perhaps the Supreme Court during your pupillage.

There is no promise of a tenancy; but most of our tenants were pupils here and we have a good record of taking on pupils following pupillage, reflecting the care we take in selecting pupils. If you are awarded a tenancy, you will not be asked to dogbody, but will be given the opportunity to build your own base of clients immediately; the true key to building a successful career.

Pupillage candidates will usually be required to have a first class degree, and, if they have already completed the GDL (which is by no means necessary), have done so to the same standard. We want to recruit the best and brightest candidates whatever their background. We also have traditionally accepted for pupillage both recent graduates and those who have practised tax in other professions, and will continue to do so.

Application details

Applications for pupillage commencing 1 October 2025 should be made in line with the pupillage gateway deadline.

While not a pre-requisite for the grant of pupillage, mini-pupillages are encouraged.

More information can be found on our website: www.taxbar.com.
Type of work undertaken

1 Hare Court is an award-winning matrimonial finance set and its members are recognised as leaders in their fields by both Legal 500 and Chambers UK.

Chambers has been consistently ranked in the legal directories as the leading matrimonial finance set, with members of Chambers having been involved in almost all of the leading cases in this area including: White v White, Miller v Miller, McFarlane v McFarlane, McLeod v McLeod, Radmacher v Granatino, Petrodel v Prest, Agbaje v Agbaje, Sharland v Sharland, and Waggot v Waggot. Chambers has the greatest number of financial remedy silks at the bar (14) and numerous junior barristers ranked in the legal directories as leading juniors. Members of Chambers regularly appear in the most high profile and high value matrimonial finance cases taking place in the Family Court, Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court. Members of Chambers edit the practitioners guide, Rayden & Jackson on Divorce and Family Matters, and the leading reference work, Financial Remedies Practice. Former members of Chambers include Law Lords, members of the Court of Appeal, Presidents of the Family Division of the High Court, and current members of the High Court.

Pupillage details

During their pupillage, pupils will be supervised by leading family law practitioners. Pupils can expect to be introduced to most aspects of private family law, but the emphasis in Chambers is on the resolution of financial disputes following relationship breakdown, whether through the court process or other available forms of dispute resolution. In their second six, pupils can expect to appear regularly in court in a variety of private family law matters: any earnings made by a pupil in their second six will be received by that pupil in full in addition to Chambers’ pupillage award of £50,000. There is no limit to the number of tenancies offered by Chambers each year and pupils are not in competition.

Application details

Chambers is not a member of the Pupillage Gateway. Applications for pupillage commencing October 2025 will open and close in accordance with the Pupillage Gateway timetable. A mini-pupillage in Chambers is not a requirement for an application for pupillage.

Applications should be by way of our application form and should be sent by email to pupillageapplication@1hc.com. Information about what should be included within the application form is set out in the explanatory sheet within the form. No additional documents (CVs, covering letters, etc.) should be sent alongside a completed application form. References will be requested in the event that a candidate reaches a second-round interview.

All applications will be considered on paper in the first instance by our Pupillage Committee. Chambers operates a name, school, and university blind recruitment policy at the paper stage. First-round interviews are anticipated to be in March/April 2024, with second-round interviews in April/May 2024.

“1 Hare Court is a universally lauded set with distinguished matrimonial finance practitioners, It has seasoned silks and highly commended juniors, who tackle the largest and most challenging and acrimonious financial disputes following the dissolution of relationships.”

Chambers & Partners 2023 (Band 1 – Family: Matrimonial Finance)
3 Hare Court is a leading commercial and civil law set with a friendly and approachable outlook. Known for our commercial, personal injury, travel, Privy Council work and links to the Caribbean; we are ranked by legal directories and members are recognised as leaders in their field.

We are committed to providing excellent training to ensure that our pupils have the skills, knowledge, and judgement to succeed at the modern Bar.

Pupillage
We offer up to two 12-month pupillages via the Pupillage Gateway. These carry an award of £65,000 per year split into two parts, £55,000 in the first six months, and £10,000 plus earnings for work done in the second six months.

We have a long-established history of recruiting from our own pupils, having offered tenancies to 10 out of the last 10 pupils. We aim to provide the highest quality pupillage training in a friendly and supportive environment. This includes provision of an advocacy training programme specifically designed to prepare pupils for the type of cases that they are likely to be dealing with in their formative years. During pupillage itself, pupils will be mentored by up to six different pupil supervisors (in eight-week ‘seats’). This allows pupils to experience a wide range of work in each of our core practice areas.

Why 3 Hare Court?
• High-quality training and exposure to a variety of work
  Pupils will experience a broad range of work across all of our main practice areas.

• Inclusive culture
  We aim to provide the highest quality pupillage training in a friendly and supportive environment.

• Excellent clerks’ room and professional support
  We provide our members with support and advice to build a sustainable and thriving practice.

Application and selection
We only accept applications via the Pupillage Gateway. Shortlisting and invitation to interview normally take place in March.

We look for candidates with a strong academic background, lucidity of expression, strong people skills, and the commitment and energy to succeed in the competitive world of the modern Bar. The purpose of our selection process is to identify pupils who we anticipate will be outstanding candidates to join Chambers as tenants at the end of the year.

We are committed to the promotion of equality and diversity at the Bar, and to providing equality of opportunity and a fair and inclusive working environment so that pupils can flourish regardless of their background. We encourage and welcome applications from all groups that tend to be underrepresented in the legal profession. Visit 3harecourt.com/pupillage

Mini-pupillage
Mini-pupillage is not a precondition of applying to 3 Hare Court. However, it is a good way to familiarise yourself with us and our work. Our mini-pupillages are up to two days long and during that time we aim to show you a range of work and give you the opportunity to gain an insight into what life is like in Chambers, speak to members of varying seniority, including our current pupils, and to attend court.
Visit 3harecout.com/mini-pupillage

Chambers specialisation
• appeals to the privy council
• arbitration
• aviation
• banking & finance
• civil fraud
• commercial & company
• constitutional
• derivatives & financial product litigation
• employment
• insolvency
• offshore
• personal injury
• professional negligence
• property
• public & administrative
• public inquiries
• sports
• travel & cross-border claims

Tenants 43
Junior tenancies offered in last 3 years 6

Pupillage details
Up to two, 12 months, award of £65,000 plus second-six earnings for work done.

All applications should be made through the Pupillage Gateway.
**Description of Chambers**

Henderson Chambers is a long-established, leading commercial/common law set. It has acknowledged expertise in all of its principal areas of practice, and pupils and members are frequently involved in high-profile commercial and common law litigation.

**Areas of work**

Much of our work has an international dimension to it and over the last decade, Chambers has been involved in many of the major commercial and landmark International Group Actions. We are ranked in the top tier by both *Chambers and Partners* and *Legal 500* and are the holders of awards in many of our practice areas.

Our Junior Tenants operate in an extraordinarily diverse array of areas of practice. They switch between running their own cases and from being team players, being led by silks, in massive pieces of litigation. They are expected to develop and market their own careers from the outset.

**Pupillage programme**

Pupils undertake four seats with four top barristers and have the opportunity to see international commercial litigation in action. The second six is defined by real advocacy as pupils get to their feet in court and undertake a month’s external secondment at an international legal practice in order to experience practice in another jurisdiction, at first hand.

Chambers offers up to two funded 12-month pupillages a year. Pupils receive a minimum remuneration of £75,000. This consists of a guaranteed award of £75,000, plus any additional earnings during the second six months.
We are a specialist civil law set providing high quality advice and advocacy to a wide range of private and public sector clients, both claimants and defendants.

Types of work undertaken
Pupils can expect to gain a range of experience across the following areas: public law and human rights; employment and discrimination law; commercial law; retained EU law; data protection; information law, media & data privacy, public procurement, partnership, professional discipline and regulatory law and sports law.

Pupillage
The great majority of tenants are recruited from those who have done a 12-month pupillage here. We offer pupillages only to those who we believe have the potential to become tenants and our policy is to offer tenancy to all pupils who meet the required standard during their pupillage. We place a high premium on outstanding intellectual ability, but we are also looking for strong advocacy skills, determination and practical common sense that will lead to a successful practice.

11KBW is a member of the Pupillage Gateway. Applications for pupillage commencing October 2025 should be made in the new Pupillage Gateway Spring round in 2024 (although we accept deferred applications). Chambers has a four-stage process for pupillage applications (subject to reasonable adjustments):

(i) All applications for pupillage are reviewed by the Pupillage and Tenancy Committee. Applicants will be expected to have a first or good upper-second class degree (in any academic field), subject to mitigating circumstances;

(ii) Selected candidates are invited to complete a piece of assessed written work, intended to be completed in the second half of March 2024. This piece of work may be completed remotely, unless the circumstances of the applicant are such that completing the application in Chambers is preferable;

(iii) Following the assessed written work, selected candidates are invited into Chambers for an oral assessment and mini-pupillage day. It is envisaged that this will take place in mid-April 2024;

(iv) Selected candidates from the third stage will be invited for a final round interview in the first week of May 2024.

Offers to successful candidates will be made through the Gateway in May 2024.

Awards
We offer a Pupillage Award of £75,000 (up to £20,000 of the pupillage award may be paid to prospective pupils as an advance in their BPTC year).
Keating Chambers is a leading set specialising in high profile construction, engineering, energy, infrastructure, international arbitration, EU procurement, professional negligence, shipbuilding and marine engineering and technology disputes. These disputes often relate to high-profile projects in the UK and overseas and typically involve complex issues in the law of tort, contract and restitution. Chambers is based in modern premises just outside the Temple.

Chambers’ areas of practice are dynamic and challenging. The relevant principles of law are constantly developing and the technical complexity of disputes requires thorough analytical skills. In their first years of practice, tenants can expect earnings equivalent to those in other top commercial sets.

Our barristers regularly appear in the UK courts including the Technology and Construction Court, the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court, the Privy Council. We are also frequently instructed to act in international hearings across Europe, the Middle East, Asia-Pacific, Africa and the Caribbean. Our expertise in alternative dispute resolution covers both UK and international arbitration, adjudication (statutory and contractual), mediation, dispute review boards and expert determination. Members regularly publish books, articles and journals, such as Keating on Construction Contracts.

**Pupillage**: Chambers invites applications for pupillage starting in September 2024. All applications are to be made through the Pupillage Gateway in the 2024 timetable.

Pupils are normally allocated four supervisors in the course of their 12 month pupillage to ensure that each pupil sees a variety of work of differing levels of complexity within Chambers. We are committed to providing pupils with comprehensive training in the core skills required for practice. Pupils are encouraged to prepare drafts of pleadings, advice, letters and other documents, as well as preparing skeleton arguments for hearings. They also attend in person/virtual conferences with clients, hearings in court, arbitrations, adjudications and mediations. We place a great deal of emphasis on the quality of our advocacy and organise a series of mock court hearings to ensure that our pupils are fully prepared for practice as specialist advocates. In the second six months, we also get our pupils into court as much as possible.

The experience of pupillage at Keating Chambers is a rewarding, challenging and enjoyable one, and as such our pupils invariably want to apply for tenancy. Our retention rate of pupils to tenants is high and in the last two years we have taken on seven pupils (86%).

**Mini-pupillage**: Mini-pupillage is not a precondition of applying to Keating Chambers. However, it is a very good way to familiarise yourself with us and our work, so we encourage applications. Usually, mini-pupilages will be one-day in person placements but we can offer virtual mini-pupillages if required. Application forms for mini-pupilages are available on our website. There are two rounds of applications in each calendar year: applications for a placement between July and September must be received by 31st March (Round 1), and applications for a placement between November and January must be received by 1st September (Round 2).

**Chambers’ Selection Criteria**: Save in exceptional cases, we expect applicants to have an upper second or first class degree, whether in law or not. No specialist or technical knowledge of construction or engineering is required, however a sound understanding of the principles of contract and tort law is essential. Our selection criteria are available on our website.

**Equal opportunities**

We are fully committed to equality and diversity in both recruitment and the provision of services and all applications are considered on merit alone. We use a contextual recruitment system and all our selection procedures are operated without discrimination.

We are a friendly and welcoming set. We want to ensure that we attract the best candidates, offer the best candidates a pupillage and retain them as tenants. We want our chambers to reflect the diversity of the people we serve and seek to serve and we recognise that the best barristers do not all come from the same mould.

We participate in initiatives to help improve diversity at Keating and more widely at the Bar. These include establishing a Social Mobility Scholarship with Grays Inn, hosting an annual Women at the Commercial Bar event, participating in the Commercial Bar’s mentoring scheme for underrepresented groups and the Bar Council’s Reverse Mentoring Scheme. We are also a founding partner of Bridging the Bar, a charity committed to the promotion of equal opportunities and diversity within the Bar, and we were one of the first five sets to sign up to the 10,000 Black Interns programme. For further information on our equality and diversity initiatives, please visit our website: www.keatingchambers.com/recruitment/diversity-and-inclusion.
THE PUPIL EXPERIENCE
Wen Jin Teh

University
Wen Jin read law at the University of Cambridge, where he was awarded the George Long Prize.

Languages
Having grown up in Singapore, Wen Jin is fluent in Mandarin Chinese.

Tenant
Wen Jin Teh was called to the Bar in 2020 and became a tenant at Keating Chambers in 2021 following successful completion of pupillage.

How did you choose your area of law?
I wanted to practice in an area that would be intellectually challenging and offer a range of domestic and international opportunities. A mini pupillage at another specialist construction set made me realise that construction law had the potential to satisfy all of the above requirements and would therefore be a good fit for me personally. My time at Keating Chambers has only served to affirm this initial impression.

Firstly, construction disputes are a specialist, technical area of law and there is therefore always something new to learn. It is extremely satisfying to work together with experts in their fields to put together a convincing case that marries both technical understanding with legal analysis.

Secondly, there is a great deal of international work available as many standard construction forms include an arbitration clause as part of their dispute resolution procedure. During my pupillage, I had the opportunity to assist on disputes concerning construction projects situated all across the world, including Ghana, Singapore, and Australia.

Finally, unlike other areas of practice, construction disputes are scalable; a home renovation project can give rise to the same legal issues seen in a large commercial development. This means that there is ample opportunity for junior practitioners to be instructed in their own right, and to therefore develop their individual case management and advocacy skills at an early stage. For all these reasons, I consider myself extremely fortunate to be able to practise in this area of law.

What kind of work experience did you gain or would you suggest prior to qualifying as a barrister?
In my opinion, there is no substitute for mini pupillages; they are the best way of experiencing what life as a barrister is like first-hand. Further, as stated above, they can be instrumental in deciding which areas of law you would like to practise in.

However, I would also suggest undertaking a vacation scheme, or some other form of work experience in a solicitors’ firm. This is for two reasons: firstly, if you are not entirely sure whether you would like to be a barrister or a solicitor, such experiences will allow you to better appreciate the differences between the two roles and thereby make an informed choice. Secondly, even if you are certain that you would like to be a barrister, an understanding of the solicitor’s role will only benefit your own practice.

What sort of work did you do during pupillage?
At Keating Chambers, pupillage is divided into four three-month seats; pupils are assigned supervisors of varying seniority to gain an appreciation of the kinds of work that can be expected at different stages of practice. In addition, there are two-week long ‘secondments’ with members of chambers that practise primarily in planning and procurement.

The work varies depending on the stage of pupillage. The first six months are geared towards training, with time predominantly spent completing written work based on a supervisor’s old cases (though at times, you may be asked to assist them on a live case). In the second six, the focus shifts towards doing work for other members of chambers and gaining experience of being instructed in your own right. I still remember waking up at 5 a.m. to get on the train to Coventry for my first hearing!

The tenancy decision at Keating is taken after the end of the third seat. If successful, the fourth seat is then spent addressing any areas that may have been missed in the first three seats, as well as preparing generally for tenancy.

What do you think is the most important skill for a barrister?
The best barristers are able to take extremely complex questions of fact and law, distil them to the most pertinent issues, and present them in a clear and succinct manner. This is a skill that can be improved with practice, which is fortunate as it is also something that I have to work on!

In my opinion, there is no substitute for mini pupillages; they are the best way of experiencing what life as a barrister is like first-hand.
Type of work undertaken
12KBW is a leading civil set of chambers. Our expertise extends across personal injury, industrial disease, employment, clinical negligence, international and travel law. Our barristers also act in public inquiries and inquests.

Members of chambers regularly appear in the most significant cases in the High Court, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court and Court of Justice of the European Union.

Our barristers have been instructed in many of the most important cases in the field of personal injury, for example historically:

• Fairchild v Glenhaven [2002] UKHL 22
• Hatton v Southerland [2002] EWCA Civ 76
• Page v Smith [1995] UKHL 7

In the last few years, 12KBW have been instructed in the following notable cases:

• X v Kuoni [2021] UKSC 34
• Swift v Carpenter [2020] EWCA Civ 1295
• Lipton v BA City Flyer Ltd [2021] EWCA Civ 454

Application details
We offer an award of £65,000 to each pupil for the 2024/2025 intake of pupillage. This is made up of:

• A grant of £40,000 in the first six months (of which £10,000 may be drawn down for the Bar Professional Training Course); and
• £25,000 guaranteed earnings during the second six months.

We offer an award of £75,000 to each pupil for the 2025/2026 intake of pupillage. This is made up of:

• A grant of £45,000 in the first six months (of which £10,000 may be drawn down for the Bar Professional Training Course); and
• £30,000 guaranteed earnings during the second six months.
Description of Chambers

Landmark is ranked as the number one planning, property and environmental Chambers in the UK by the top legal directories. We are regarded as one of the leading sets in our other main areas of work and have consistently won Real Estate Set of the Year and Planning/Environmental Set of the Year at the Chambers UK Bar Awards. In October 2023, Landmark was awarded ‘Set of the Year’ at the prestigious Legal 500 UK Bar Awards. Members have been involved in some of the most significant cases and inquiries in recent years, including Crossrail and HS2, the third runway for Heathrow, the Supreme Court hearing on the prorogation of Parliament, the Supreme Court property cases General Motors UK Ltd v The Manchester Ship Canal Co Ltd, Fearn v Tate Trustees, R(Day) v Shropshire Council and Rakusen v Jepsen and others, the Covid Inquiry, Infected Blood and Child Abuse Inquiries and the infringement of LGBTQ+ rights case Jones v AG Trinidad & Tobago.

Pupillage

We offer up to three London-based pupillages of twelve months duration each year and all applications for pupillage must be made through the Bar Council Gateway. Further information may be found on our Chambers’ website.

The pupillage year is divided into four seats of three months each, during which time we will encourage you to work for a cross-section of members and we will arrange for our Silks to act as your satellite supervisors on more complex cases.

This will allow you to see a wide variety of work and take advantage of Landmark’s unique position as a leading specialist set, with significant overlap between its private and public law practices. In your second six months you will also be offered opportunities to appear in court on your own accord, usually in the County Court or First-Tier Tribunal.

We are committed to providing our pupils with high-quality and constructive training. To that end, you will receive regular feedback from your supervisors and, at the end of each seat, you will be invited to participate in formal feedback sessions with the Chair and Secretaries of our Pupillage Committee. Finally, our pupils participate in, and receive feedback in relation to, three written and one oral advocacy assessments during their pupillage year.

Mini-Pupillages

Landmark runs a comprehensive mini-pupillate programme from our Chambers in London, taking up to 60 students per annum for a period of three to five days’ duration.

We believe that it is important to ensure that students from all backgrounds are able to undertake their mini-pupillate at minimal expense to themselves and, in doing so, improve social mobility at, and access to, the Bar. We therefore offer mini-pupils a maximum reimbursement of £100 for reasonable travel and lunch expenses.

Additionally, Landmark operates a discretionary accommodation funding scheme for students visiting from outside of London.

Further details

To find out more about pupillage, mini-pupillate, Landmark’s open evenings, property moot competition and judicial review moot competition, please visit www.landmarkchambers.co.uk/pupillage-recruitment.
Type of work undertaken
Maitland is one of the leading sets of barristers’ chambers in the UK. We offer legal advice and advocacy of the highest quality both domestically and internationally. We are consistently ranked as a leading set in all our areas of expertise across the commercial litigation and arbitration, civil fraud, company and partnership, insolvency and asset recovery, offshore and trusts, and related fields (including banking and financial services, real estate, media and entertainment, IP, cryptoassets, professional negligence, tax, private client, charities and ADR). We appear across a full range of UK civil courts and tribunals including the Supreme Court and Privy Council as well as in Caribbean, Asian and other jurisdictions. We have the strength and depth to provide representation and cross-disciplinary expertise across the whole range of matters, from a junior for a relatively modest claim to a team with the ability and experience to tackle the largest, most urgent and most complex cases in ways which are comprehensive, imaginative, efficient and effective.

Areas of work include:
- commercial litigations & arbitration
- civil fraud
- company & partnership
- insolvency & assess recovery
- offshore & trusts

Leading specialists in related fields:
- banking & financial services
- real estate
- media & entertainment
- cryptoassets
- professional negligence
- tax
- private client
- charities
- ADR
- intellectual property
- technology

Application details
Maitland Chambers is a member of the Pupillage Gateway and applications for pupillage commencing in September 2025 should be made through the portal. There is no such thing as a “Maitland type”. We look for the qualities which we think are required to excel in our field of practice: a first-class mind; an aptitude for written and oral advocacy; good judgment; sound interpersonal skills; and a level temperament. We believe that those qualities are to be found in candidates from every background; and can be evidenced in many different ways. We only offer pupillage to candidates who demonstrate that they have the ability and skills to become tenants in Chambers. We have no limit on the number of tenancies offered in any given year and pupils are never in competition with each other. We are committed to increasing the diversity of chambers and adopt a variety of techniques to achieve that objective, while maintaining the fair treatment of all candidates.

Mini-pupillage
Mini-pupillage provides the opportunity to obtain experience of the work we do and the atmosphere in chambers. Visits are unassessed and unfunded, and last one day. Demand for places is high, but we try to accommodate as many applications as possible. We find that mini-pupils obtain the most from the experience if they come to Chambers after at least a year of an undergraduate law degree or, if they are converting to law, after they have started their GDL course. For application details and times, please visit our website.
We are a specialist set of family law barristers, offering clients our expertise in public and private children law disputes, adoption matters, financial remedies after relationship breakdown, and in the Court of Protection. Members of chambers regularly appear in high profile and complex cases and you can find information about recent cases we’ve been involved with on our social media.

We predominantly work across London, the Midlands, and the South East but are increasingly appearing in courts all across England and Wales.

We generally recruit two 12-month pupillages each year and offer a competitive pupillage award for each. We view every pupil as a potential tenant and invest in our recruits accordingly. We do not have an annual quota for pupils or new tenants which means that we need only recruit those who we feel will flourish in practice with us.

We pride ourselves on our friendly and inclusive atmosphere. The goal of the first six months’ of pupillage with us is to make sure that you are equipped to tackle a range of different cases across our practice areas from the very start of your second six.

Chambers has maintained its rankings in Chambers and Partners and the Legal 500 for 2024. We have been consistently ranked in Chambers and Partners each year since 2018. A growing number of members of chambers are individually ranked at all levels of practice.

Mini-pupillages are offered year-round. See our website for details.
Type of work undertaken
4 New Square is a leading commercial barristers chambers acting and advising in a wide variety of disputes both domestically and internationally. Its members have a strong reputation in commercial dispute resolution and arbitration, including banking and financial services, company and insolvency, construction and energy, costs, IT, insurance, professional liability, professional discipline and sports law. They also have expertise in public law and public and private international law.

Chambers attracts a large amount of junior advocacy work in a wide range of fields and junior tenants are regularly involved in high profile cases which reflect chambers’ emphasis on developing pupils and junior tenants into experienced advocates.

Pupils and junior tenants are also encouraged to get involved in chambers social and business development activities. Where there are enough candidates of a suitable standard, chambers will occasionally have more than 2 pupils in a year.

Pupillage application details
Chambers is a member of the Pupillage Gateway. For information regarding Pupillage applications and deadlines, please visit the Pupillage Gateway website.

Sponsorship/funding
The total annual award is £75,000, comprising a £65,000 award (of which £5,000 is paid immediately upon acceptance of the offer and a further £15,000 can be drawn down during the BPTC year) and guaranteed earnings in the second six months of £10,000. Pupils are allowed to keep any earnings from their second six months, including any earned in excess of the £10,000 guarantee. New tenants have a guaranteed earnings of £250,000, in addition to their pupillage awards, over the first three years of practice.

Mini-pupillage
We strongly encourage students to apply for a mini-pupillage with us as we believe that they allow prospective applicants to get a real understanding of the work done in chambers. Mini-pupils also have the opportunity to meet members of chambers and get a feel for the working environment.

Mini-pupillages last for two days and, save in exceptional circumstances, take place in specific weeks in June, July, November and December of each year. Mini-pupillages do not involve formal assessment but we do record feedback on your likely suitability for pupillage in chambers. Mini-pupillage application details can be found on our website.

Chambers observes a policy of equal opportunity. All mini-pupils, pupils, tenants and staff are selected on merit alone, irrespective of race, gender, age, sexuality, religious or political belief, disability, marital status or background.
Who are we?
XXIV Old Buildings is a commercial chancery chambers of 48 barristers with an emphasis on international litigation in addition to our first-class reputation for litigation in London. Members are instructed in a wide range of traditional and commercial chancery matters, with particular emphasis on trust, commercial and other business disputes. Specific areas of expertise include civil fraud, company and financial services, insolvency, property, trusts and probate and professional liability, particularly in relation to solicitors, accountants, professional trustees and financial managers and advisors. In addition to our first-class reputation for litigation in London much of the work carried out by members has an international or offshore dimension, often relating to trusts and offshore structures and the closely associated fields of fraud, breach of fiduciary duty and asset recovery.

What makes us different?
• We are particularly respected for our practice in the international and offshore fields, covering both traditional chancery work as well as major commercial litigation. Many of us frequently advise and appear in other jurisdictions (such as the BVI, the Cayman Islands, Channel Islands, the Bahamas, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Gibraltar and the Isle of Man).
• Uniquely for a London chambers, we have a permanent office in Geneva, which deals almost exclusively with offshore disputes.
• We also have a niche practice in aviation and travel law, specialising mainly in aircraft leasing and insurance/reinsurance issues.

Pupillage
We like to recruit our junior members from those who have undertaken pupillage with us. We are therefore careful that our pupils acquire all the skills necessary to make them successful commercial chancery barristers. During a 12-month pupillage, a pupil will have, on average, four pupil supervisors with whom they will spend the majority of their time. Each year we are looking for up to three pupils with a first or 2.1 degree, though not necessarily in law, who have an enthusiasm for the type of work we do, sound judgment and the application required to succeed in a very competitive and intellectually demanding environment. Each pupil will be paid at least £85,000 and one quarter of the award may be drawn down prior to pupillage.

Interested?
Please see our website for details of the application process for pupillages commencing October 2025. The timetable for the application process will match that which applies to the Bar Council’s Pupillage Gateway application platform.
Type of work undertaken

The defining quality of Old Square Chambers is excellence. This is the standard we set for ourselves in the delivery of services to our clients, and the criterion by which we assess prospective tenants and pupils. Members regularly appear before the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal, the High Court, and the Employment Appeal Tribunal, in leading cases at the forefront of UK law. Chambers was recently recognised as the Chambers of the Year whilst members were awarded the Employment Junior and Personal Injury Junior of the Year awards. Many of our members are recognised as leading juniors in their field whilst others hold part-time judicial positions, sit on specialist panels, act as mediators, and edit or contribute to leading practitioner texts. Our objective is to select a small number of pupils with the aim of recruiting our tenants from them. We have a strong retention rate and encourage pupils to be collaborative. Chambers is committed to equality and diversity, and we are proud to have a diverse membership which we continue to build upon. We actively engage in several access to the Bar initiatives. We are committed to ensuring all our recruitment and selection processes are fair and that protected characteristics are safeguarded. We are based in Bedford Row but operate nationally.

We are a leading employment and personal injury/civil set of chambers. Our work is balanced between claimant and defendant or respondent and includes the protection of individual rights. We work on behalf of trade unions, commercial organisations, the NHS and local and central government. In employment we cover all the relevant areas including discrimination, collective action, individual rights, restraint of trade and human rights. We also have a thriving practice in the field of professional regulatory and disciplinary work, especially in the healthcare sector, with members often appearing on behalf of high-profile doctors (such as the British Cycling and Team Sky Doctor) and in the High Court seeking injunctive relief. In personal injury we have an excellent profile spanning all types of litigation. Particular areas of strength include catastrophic injury, disaster and multi-party litigation. In clinical law we have a number of expert practitioners encompassing all disputes affecting and involving the medical, dental, pharmaceutical and nursing professions. We also have a thriving inquests and inquiries practice. Members have worked on most of the high-profile inquests and inquiries over the last three decades, most recently including the Grenfell Inquiry, the Paterson Inquiry, the Leveson Inquiry, the Infected Bloody Inquiry and inquests into the London Bridge and Westminster terrorist attacks. Much of our work involves the use of European jurisprudence.

We assess candidates on a number of criteria, which can be found detailed on our website.

Pupils are offered generous funding and will experience a wide variety of court and paperwork. There is also the opportunity to work closely with silks on complex and sometimes high-profile cases.

Application details

Mini-pupillages are available; please see our website for details as to how to apply.

Chambers is a member of the Pupillage Gateway. Minimum 2:1 degree desirably.

There is a significant amount of second six pupil work.

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Old Square Chambers
Chambers of Oliver Segal KC
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W: www.oldsquare.co.uk

Chambers specialisation
- employment & discrimination
- personal injury & clinical negligence
- public & administrative

Tenants 79
Junior tenancies offered in last 3 years 7

Pupillage details Two, 12 months, grant and guaranteed earnings totalling £70,000. Draw down of up to £20,000 available.
About us
Outer Temple Chambers is a leading, global civil common-law chambers with a forward-thinking approach to business development and client care in the new legal market place.

From clinical negligence to professional negligence, our barristers have been involved in some of the most cutting edge litigation of recent times. We have achieved ground-breaking results for employment clients, our pensions team has been instrumental in revolutionising the industry and, from health and safety to commercial law, our barristers are widely described as leaders in their field.

In London, we are located directly opposite the Royal Courts of Justice and we are the only UK Chambers with registered offices in the DIFC. We have representatives around the world including Australia, Far East, US and the Caribbean.

The process
We positively encourage applications from under-represented groups such as women, those from ethnic minorities and persons with a disability. We are a Disability Confident employer and a Mindful employer.

We have no preference for an undergraduate law degree over the one-year conversion course as we look for the best and the brightest candidates whatever their background.

We recruit pupils through the Pupillage Gateway in accordance with the Gateway timetable. We do not accept deferred applications for pupillage. In the majority of cases we are obliged to direct Transferring Solicitors/Qualified Legal Practitioners (including from other relevant jurisdictions) and Legal Academics to make their applications through the Pupillage Gateway. In exceptional circumstances we may be able to apply for a waiver from the BSB to recruit outside the Gateway.

Our pupillage award for pupillages commencing September 2025 will be a minimum of £70,000 (with up to 25% available for draw-down during the BPC year). The precise amount of the award is yet to be determined but will be set out on the Pupillage Gateway.

Shortlisting criteria
We are looking for candidates with:
• Intellectual ability
• Potential as an advocate
• Motivation/drive/commitment
• Professional compatibility with Chambers
• A 2:1 first degree or above is preferred.

Applications received through the Gateway undergo an initial assessment. Our pupillage team use an anonymised vetting process and a broad cross-section of our barristers at this stage.

Candidates whose applications score sufficiently highly will be invited to take a written test and attend a first round interview. Both the first round interview and the written test score are taken into account in determining which applicants are invited to a second round interview.

Outer Temple Chambers
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James Counsell KC,
Nicolas Stallworthy KC
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W: www.outertemple.com

Chambers specialisation
• arbitration
• banking & finance
• chancery
• commercial
• common law
• company
• construction
• employment & pensions
• energy
• information
• insolvency
• personal injury & clinical negligence
• professional negligence
• public & administrative
• shipping & admiralty

Tenants 91
Junior tenancies offered in last 3 years 4
Pupillage details Two–three, 12 month pupillages, £70,000 minimum (with up to 25% available for draw down during the BPC year)
*No deferred applications
Type of work undertaken
In addition, we have members who specialise in Company Law, Court of Protection, Financial Services, Insolvency, Judicial Review and other aspects of Public Law, Landlord & Tenant, Sports Law, Partnership, Planning and Probate.

Application details
The qualities of a pupil: The qualities we look for in our pupils are intellectual excellence; clarity of expression; a capacity for legal reasoning and rational argument; and potential as an advocate. We also look for personal qualities such as sensitivity and a capacity to relate well to others; sound judgment; application and motivation; and an inquiring and independent mind.
The pattern of pupillage: Pupillages are for 12 months, with at least three “seats” with different pupil supervisors. We aim to take the best six applicants each year across Chambers. Pupils are asked to indicate their preferences for location. All pupils will visit and spend time at all our centres. In their second six, pupils will have a variety of court work. Our successful candidates are treated as part of Chambers in the year between recruitment and commencing pupillage and are invited to selected events. We tend to offer four general or common law pupillages and two specialist pupillages in a particular area of law.
Finance: Our current pupillage funding is £40,000. £20,000 of the award will be paid in stages with £20,000 by way of guaranteed earnings (as distinct from receipts). We expect all our pupils’ earnings to exceed their guarantee during their second six – there is usually too much work rather than too little. Chambers will honour its ‘top-up’ obligations in the event of a short-fall in receipts during the second six.
Tenancies: We prefer to recruit tenants from our own pupils and we recruit an average of four junior tenants each year. Between 2022 and 2023, we took on 7 of our pupils as tenants. Each pupil has a reasonable prospect of becoming a tenant. Our pupils are assessed and given feedback to enable them to improve their prospects of tenancy.
Mini–pupillages and student visits: Applications for mini–pupillage should be made to applications@3pb.co.uk. Please submit a completed application form available from our website. Chambers does not formally assess its mini–pupils nor is mini–pupillage a requirement before applying for pupillage.
Applications for 2023/2024: We operate through the Pupillage Gateway application system, www.pupillagegateway.com. All applications will be acknowledged on receipt. We regret that because of the number of applications we are likely to receive it will not be possible to interview all those who apply. Those called for interview will be notified and interviews will take place in early spring 2023.

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Chambers specialisation
• clinical negligence
• commercial
• construction and engineering
• crime
• direct access
• education
• employment and discrimination
• family
• intellectual property
• mediation
• personal injury
• property and estates
• public and regulatory

Tenants 221
Junior tenancies offered in last 3 years 12
Pupillage details Up to six, 12 months, total of £40,000 made up of grant and guaranteed earnings
Type of work undertaken
Pump Court Tax Chambers is the largest specialist tax chambers. Litigation and advisory work is undertaken on all aspects of tax law, both personal and corporate, both in the tax tribunals and in the High Court (including judicial review, matrimonial finance, professional negligence). Many members of Chambers act for HMRC as well as for taxpayers. Tax practice involves difficult statutory interpretation, EU law (especially but not only in VAT) and a good knowledge of chancery and common law concepts (e.g. contracts, trusts, company law and land law): a tax question may depend on the operation of a trust or the interpretation of a contract, and many recent developments in restitution have occurred in tax cases argued by members of these chambers. Junior practice involves independent and led work. Litigation is more likely to involve being in court every few weeks than every few days, and tax cases range from purely legal disputes lasting a day to multiple week witness trials. Members regularly appear in the Supreme Court and even in overseas jurisdictions.

There is no need for a pupil to have any previous experience of tax law. What is required is a good general legal knowledge, as well as a facility for interpreting the often difficult statutory provisions and explaining these clearly to clients (and judges). Commercial awareness, clear thinking and a creative mind will help find practical solutions to the problems presented. Only around half our members did law degrees - a non-law degree is no barrier to success at the tax bar, particularly if it involved explaining difficult concepts clearly.

We aim to offer tenancy to all pupils who reach the relevant standard, without regard to the relative performance of any other pupils or the short-term need (or otherwise) for junior tenants at the time the tenancy decision is made.

Please see our website for further details.

Application details
Application details for funded mini-pupillages can be found on the Chambers website. Pupillage applications should be made via the Pupillage Gateway.

For pupillage enquiries please email ‘pupils@pumptax.com’.

Access
Chambers is committed to ensuring that everyone working in Chambers including pupils and mini-pupils can participate fully in Chambers life. Chambers will make reasonable adjustments where necessary.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like any more information relating to the accessibility of Chambers.
Description of Chambers
Quadrant Chambers holds a preeminent position as one of the leading international commercial disputes sets, with a strong sector driven approach. We pride ourselves on our legal excellence, commerciality, and levels of client service. We act as advocates in court, arbitrations and inquiries, and provide specialist legal advice to clients from around the world. A number of us also act as arbitrators and mediators. Many of us are qualified to practise in other jurisdictions, including Australia, the BVI, California, Germany, Hong Kong, New York and South Africa. Distinguished former members of Quadrant Chambers have gone on to chair high-profile public enquiries, and to sit as judges in the High Court (QBD, Commercial, Administrative and Admiralty Courts), DIFC Courts, European General Court, Court of Appeal, House of Lords, Privy Council and UK Supreme Court.

Areas of work
Our key areas are aviation, banking, commercial disputes, commodities, energy, fraud, insolvency, insurance, international arbitration and shipping. Our work is very international in nature and we work with clients from all over the world.

Who should apply
We look for candidates with a very strong academic background. Successful applicants will generally have (or be predicted) a first class degree, and they must have/be predicted at least a high 2.1 to apply. Candidates must have excellent analytical abilities, outstanding written and oral communication skills and the ability to perform under pressure. They must also be able to demonstrate that they have the commitment, energy and robustness to succeed in the competitive world of the Commercial Bar. Successful candidates often read law for their first degree, and an increasing number also have postgraduate law degrees. However, these are not pre- requisites. We welcome applications from candidates who have studied any serious academic subject at university.

Pupillage programme
We offer up to three pupillages of 12 months’ duration each year. We aim to develop in our pupils the skills, knowledge and sound judgment they will need to become successful commercial barristers. During their first and second six months, pupils sit with up to three pupil supervisors and are exposed to a wide range of high quality commercial work. Tenancy decisions are made at the end of June. Pupils also undertake advocacy and written assessments throughout their pupillage.

Quadrant Chambers uses the Pupillage Gateway to manage its applications. Please see our website for further details.

Mini-pupillages
Mini-pupillages are available in March/April, July, September and December of each year. Places are limited. Please see our website for details.

Sponsorship/funding
Pupils receive an award of £75,000, part of which may be advanced during the BPTC year. Pupils also have the opportunity to do fee-earning work during their second six.

Chambers specialisation
- aviation
- banking & finance
- commercial
- commodities and trade
- energy
- fraud
- insolvency
- insurance
- international arbitration
- shipping

Tenants 75
Junior tenancies offered in last 3 years 5
Pupillage details Up to three, 12 months, 2.1 minimum degree
Type of work undertaken
South Square is a highly respected commercial set involved in high-profile international and domestic commercial litigation. Members are recognised as leaders in their fields in all the key legal directories and have acted in some of the most important commercial cases of the last decade – including Lehman Brothers, Madoff, Saad, Galapagos, Primeo, Greensil and Virgin Atlantic. Chambers UK Bar Guide describes South Square as having “members with unrivalled talent” and “excellent in everything they do”. South Square’s work is mainly focused on financial and banking issues. We are the market leader for restructuring and insolvency, and widely recognised for our work in banking and finance litigation, company law and civil fraud related disputes. South Square’s work has significant international focus and members regularly appear in the courts and tribunals of international jurisdictions, notably the Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Dubai, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Pupillage details
Who should apply? We seek to recruit the highest caliber of candidates, who must be prepared to commit themselves to establishing a successful practice and maintaining Chambers’ position at the forefront of the modern Commercial Bar. The minimum academic qualification is a 2:1 degree. A number of members have degrees in law, and some have the BCL or other postgraduate qualifications. Others have non-law degrees and have gone on to take the Graduate Diploma in Law.

Diversity and inclusion are extremely important to the members and staff of South Square. Our Pupillage and Diversity and Inclusion Committee work closely with external organisations including the Bar Council, 10,000 Black Interns programme, the Black Talent Charter, whilst utilising Rare’s Contextual Recruitment System, to ensure we remain at the forefront of developments in fair recruitment.

Pupillage programme. Pupils are welcomed into all areas of Chambers’ life and are provided with an organised programme designed to train and equip them for practice in a dynamic and challenging environment. Pupils sit with a number of pupil supervisors for periods of six to eight weeks.

At the outset of pupillage we anticipate offering pupils tenancy and it should be noted that pupils are not competing with one another for a place in Chambers.

When and how to apply. Applications for pupillage commencing in October 2025, should be submitted according to the pupillage gateway deadline and submitted through the pupillage gateway.

Mini-pupillages. Those interested in applying for a 12-month pupillage are strongly encouraged to apply for a mini-pupillage in the previous year. Chambers offers up to 10 funded mini-pupillages each year carrying an award of £750 each. We also offer 25 unfunded mini-pupillages of two days duration. Please see our website for further details about our mini-pupillages.

Sponsorship/funding. The pupillage award for a 12-month pupillage is £75,000 (reviewed annually). A proportion of the pupillage award may be used to pay living expenses during the BPTC year.
Areas of work
QEB is one of the premier family law sets in the country. We are particularly renowned for our experience and talent in matrimonial finance law, but with immense experience in all aspects of family law including: jurisdictional disputes, foreign divorces, pre-marital agreements, civil partnerships, injunctions both financial and domestic, private law child work, child abduction, inheritance Act claims and disputes between former cohabitees.

QEB has been established for well over 100 years and is consistently rated as one of the top-ranking sets for family law. Members of QEB have been involved in many of the most important cases of legal principle, including: White, Sorrell, Miller, Spencer, Charman, Marano, Robson, Schofield, Jones, Z v Z (No 2), Petrodel v Prest, Mittal, Cooper-Hohn, SS v NS, Zimina v Zimin, Versteegh, Martin, XH v WH, Unger v Ul-Hasan. Many members of chambers have continued into high judicial office. QEB is well known for having supplied many High Court Judges of the Family Division including Lord Wilson who sat in the Supreme Court and Lord Justice Moylan who sits in the Court of Appeal.

Who should apply?
QEB is committed to diversity and we recruit the best possible candidates regardless of their background. The practice of family law is itself highly varied and clients come from all walks of life. International and conflict of laws issues arise increasingly often. An ability to deal not only with complex financial disputes, often involving commercial issues, but also with child-related or other emotionally fraught and sensitive situations, is essential.

We are looking for applicants with a strong academic record (minimum 2.1 law or non-law degree save in exceptional circumstances), good legal and analytical skills, and also those who can demonstrate an ability to communicate sensitively with a wide range of people at a critical time in their lives.

Pupillage programme
QEB offers 2 pupillages each year. A pupillage at QEB offers top-quality training and very good financial support in a busy, friendly environment. A 12-month pupillage involves three pupil supervisors, but pupils are also encouraged to work with other tenants at all levels to gain a broad experience of our work. All our pupils are automatically considered candidates for tenancy and new tenants are only recruited from QEB pupils. Our reputation is such that where a pupil is not taken on, he or she is usually well placed elsewhere.

Chambers offers a pupillage award of £40,000, funding for IT, plus earnings in the second six and from devilling. Pupils do not pay Chambers’ expenses or clerks’ fees. Chambers also funds the compulsory Inn Advocacy and Practice Management Training courses.

When and how to apply
Chambers is a part of the Pupillage Gateway system. Please consult the Pupillage Gateway website for details of the timetable.

Mini-pupillages
Applications for mini-pupillages should be made using the mini-pupillage application form which can be downloaded from our website at www.qeb.co.uk.
I came to the law after working for two years before then making the decision to do a postgraduate law degree. I was attracted to the Bar because it offered not only the opportunity to be independent and self-employed but also to be at the sharp end of making difficult decisions daily, which is incredibly rewarding. I had done some volunteering with the FRU (Free Representation Unit), representing clients in final hearings in employment tribunals, and every time I did so I came away wanting to do more. That I felt was a good sign.

When I started my GDL I had no real idea what area of law I might be interested in. I was impressed with (and slightly daunted by) others in my position who seemed to have it all figured out. The only way I was able to gain any sort of insight was by going on mini-pupillages covering a variety of different areas of law and it soon became clear that family law was the area in which I was most interested.

I applied to a number of family law sets but from the start my first choice was QEB. When I did my mini-pupillage at QEB I was struck by how open, friendly and welcoming everyone was during my week there. I was also attracted to QEB’s particular area of focus. QEB specialises in family law and especially the financial consequences following separation.

This area requires a unique combination of skills. As well as needing to have a good head for figures and a proficiency in some complex areas of law (particularly land and equity) there is a strong client-facing component. You may be dealing with significant sums of money but behind it all there is a real person facing real problems.

Furthermore, QEB also has a very active private children law practice, particularly among the junior end, but there are also more senior members of chambers who have strong practices in international abduction and relocation.

As a chambers whose members are frequently involved in the highest-profile and most important cases and whose former members include a number of Supreme Court and Court of Appeal judges there is no better place for pupils to learn and develop a family law practice.

If taken on as a pupil you will have three supervisors of around four months each. QEB ensures that the supervisors are at a range of levels of seniority so that pupils can experience diverse types of work. Pupils are also assigned a junior contact, someone who is typically under 5 years’ call. Pupils are encouraged to frequently go to court with their junior contact, and they will also be a point of contact if pupils have any questions they want to ask that they would prefer not to ask their supervisor.

QEB takes pupillage training very seriously and as part of the programme pupils will take part in a number of training exercises and assessments throughout the year. The exercises are designed to test all of the skills that you might need as a family law barrister, including advocacy, legal research, written opinions and conference skills. Each assessment comes with a detailed feedback so pupils can understand how they might improve, as well as giving an opportunity for pupils to showcase their skills for the purposes of the decision about tenancy at the end of the pupillage. Although these can be nerve-wracking, it is much better for pupils to be given every opportunity to impress in a structured and objective way.

At QEB we try to give pupils as much work as possible in their second six months. Pupils will often be at court around two to three times per week. That would not be possible without the strong support network we have in place. As a pupil you will always feel that you can ask anyone in chambers for help or advice on a case, regardless of their seniority. Any earnings that you make in the second six months will supplement the pupillage award.

Thanks to the effort that QEB puts into its recruitment and training, anyone who completes the year is very well-prepared for the challenge of life as a tenant at the Bar, whether at QEB or elsewhere. QEB is a relatively small set of chambers which has a very close and tight-knit feel which means new tenants are given the support they need to flourish from the start of their careers.
Type of work undertaken

4 Stone Buildings specialises in company and commercial litigation (including commercial chancery work), insolvency, financial services and regulation, civil fraud, banking and public law.

Commercial litigation includes contractual disputes, civil fraud & asset recovery, banking, professional negligence and trusts.

Company work includes litigation and advisory work in relation to corporate finance, mergers, acquisitions and takeovers, reductions and reorganisations of share capital, directors’ duties, boardroom and shareholder disputes (including 994 petitions), Stock Exchange and related regulatory requirements, securities and corporate banking.

Insolvency work covers all forms of personal and corporate insolvency proceedings and reconstructions, including many which invoke foreign insolvency regimes (such as the US Bankruptcy Code) as well as multi-jurisdictional issues arising under the EC Regulation on Insolvency Proceedings and related Brexit legislation, the Cross-Border Insolvency Regulations 2006, section 426 of the Insolvency Act 1986 and the common law. Members of chambers also have extensive experience of directors’ disqualification cases.

Financial services and regulatory work includes litigation and advisory work in relation to a wide range of cases involving financial services. Members of chambers are regularly instructed on behalf of regulatory bodies and government departments, as well as advising corporate and institutional clients and individuals.

Overseas connections: a significant proportion of the work undertaken by chambers is on behalf of overseas clients and members of chambers have substantial experience and long-established connections in many overseas jurisdictions, particularly in Dubai and the UAE, Caribbean and also in the emerging markets in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, South East Asia, Africa.

Chambers are a member of the Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR) and Chancery Bar Association.

Members of chambers

At present there are 41 members of chambers including ten silks. Junior members consistently sit on the Attorney General’s panel of counsel.

Mini-pupillages

We offer both virtual and in-person mini-pupillages for one day during which the mini-pupil will get an opportunity to work on a typical piece of Chambers’ work as well as discussing pupillage with junior members and meeting other members. Further details and application form are available on Chambers’ website.

Application details

Sponsored pupils are not accepted.

For pupillage commencing in October 2025, chambers is a member of Pupillage Gateway and all applications for a 12-month pupillage must be made via the Pupillage Gateway website.

All applications for pupillages and mini-pupillages, and any queries should be addressed to Dawn Russell, email pupillage@4stonebuildings.com. 4 Stone Buildings is committed to providing equality of opportunity for all applicants irrespective of race, age, ethnic origin, sex, religion, disability, political persuasion or sexual orientation.

4 Stone Buildings
Chambers of George Bompas KC
4 Stone Buildings
Lincoln’s Inn
London
WC2A 3XT
Pupillage contact: Dawn Russell
T: 020 7242 5524
E: pupillage@4stonebuildings.com
W: www.4stonebuildings.com

Chambers specialisation
• banking & finance
• commercial
• company
• insolvency
• public & administrative

Tenants 41
Junior tenancies offered in last 3 years 5

Pupillage details Up to two, £75,000 for each 12-month period. Chambers will consider any request to draw down up to 30% of the award during the BPTC year. Chambers also funds the cost of the compulsory courses which a pupil must attend during pupillage. Chambers are a member of Pupillage Gateway.
**Type of work undertaken**

Temple Garden Chambers is a leading common law set based in London and the Hague with over 70 members, including 14 silks.

We are recognised by Chambers and Partners and the Legal 500 as a leading set in the fields of personal injury, costs, health and safety, inquests and inquiries, international crime and extradition, industrial disease and motor insurance fraud. A number of our barristers are appointed to the Government Legal Department panels, and the CPS extradition and EHRC panels.

**Pupillage**

We currently offer two fully-funded 12-month pupillages each year. We offer a structured pupillage year under the guidance of senior Pupil Supervisors. Pupils can expect to see a wide range of work and to appear in court regularly during their second six months. We place a particular focus on wellbeing. We allocate all pupils a designated ‘Pupil Contact’ – this is a junior member of Chambers who acts as a confidential support with whom the pupil can discuss any concerns. The October 2025 pupillage award is £57,500, comprised of a £35,000 tax-free grant and guaranteed earnings of £22,500 in the second six months (although you may well earn more than that). Our new tenants’ earnings significantly increase after pupillage as they begin full-time practice.

**What we are looking for**

When recruiting, we look for evidence of excellence in the following areas:

- Intellectual ability
- Oral and written advocacy
- Motivation for a career at Temple Garden Chambers

We also look for evidence that candidates’ areas of interest will fit well with the type of work that they can expect to focus on in second six and in the early years of tenancy, which is likely to be primarily common law. Candidates who do not demonstrate sufficient interest in a common law practice are less likely to be made an offer of pupillage.

**Mini-pupillages**

The application deadline for 2024 mini-pupillages is 13 December 2023.

**Application process**

Chambers only accepts applications for 12-month pupillages through the online Pupillage Gateway (PupillageGateway.com). We are committed to improving equality and diversity within Chambers and at the Bar. All of those involved in recruitment have undergone Fair Recruitment training. We will make all reasonable adjustments to accommodate candidates. We are also holding a virtual Q&A session on 17 January 2024 for candidates to meet our members and ask any questions about Chambers. Further information about pupillage, mini-pupillage and the Q&A session is available at tgchambers.com/join-us.
Chambers profile
2TG is regarded as one of the leading commercial and civil law barristers’ chambers. The chambers specialises in professional negligence, property damage, insurance and personal injury and also has significant practices in employment, technology, product liability, sport and clinical negligence, alongside strength in private international law.

Pupil profile
Academically, you will need at least a high 2:1 degree to be considered. Chambers look for applicants who work well in teams and have the ability to get on with solicitors, clients and other members of chambers.

Pupillage
Chambers offers one of the most generously funded, well-structured and enjoyable pupillages at the Bar. It takes pupillage very seriously and aims to recruit the best applicants, and to ensure that its pupils have an excellent foundation from which to start a successful career at the Bar. Pupils have three different pupil supervisors during pupillage, and will also do work for other members of chambers. The aim is for pupils to experience as much of chambers’ work as possible during their pupillage year.

Mini-pupillages
Mini-pupillage is the best way to get a feel for life at 2TG. You can find out more about the structure of our mini pupillages and how to apply on our website.

Please note that applicants will only be considered after their first year of a law degree or during CPE. The best time to do a mini-pupillage is in the year or so prior to applying for pupillage.

Details of mini pupillage dates for 2024 can be found on our website.

Applications are accepted via the website by completing the online form.

2TG Open Day
Chambers also offers students an opportunity to learn more about 2TG at an Open Day. Further details can be found on our website.

Funding
Chambers offers up to three 12-month pupillages, all of which are funded. Its pupillage award for 2025 is £82,500.
Type of work undertaken

3VB has a genuine depth of experience across the full range of commercial litigation, from banking and financial services to civil fraud, company law, insurance, professional negligence, insolvency, IT, media and entertainment and public international law. Chambers has a strong reputation in domestic and international arbitration, including significant experience of investment treaty disputes and cases involving energy, natural resources and infrastructure.

3VB has substantial experience of international work, in both litigation and arbitration. Members are frequently instructed by lawyers from other jurisdictions and are accustomed to working in multi-jurisdictional teams. They have particular experience of disputes arising in the Caribbean, the Gulf States, the post-Soviet states and the Asia-Pacific region.

3VB’s policy is to offer pupillage only to those candidates with the potential to become tenants in chambers. 3VB recruits no more pupils than there are available spaces for new tenants. Each pupil is therefore judged solely on his or her own merit. Pupils do not compete against each other; they will be successful in securing tenancy if the calibre of their work by the time of the decision meets the high standard expected of a junior tenant at 3VB.

3VB is committed to equality of opportunity and diversity in the workplace. 3VB have created and now work along with nine other leading sets of chambers on the Mentoring for Underrepresented Groups Scheme, which aims to support and encourage individuals from groups which are underrepresented at the Bar of England and Wales (and in particular the commercial bar) to pursue careers as barristers.

Application details

Pupillage applications are made through the centralised Pupillage Gateway scheme in the January and February of the calendar year before the pupillage is due to start (i.e. applications in January and February 2024 will be for pupillage commencing in October 2025). Dates for first and second interviews will be published on this website in due course; usually these interviews take place during March/April.

The first round interview comprises a 15-minute discussion with a panel of interviewers about matters arising out of the applicant’s CV and application, and a law-related question, for example on a recent appellate decision (of which they will be notified in advance), to test the applicant’s ability to think on their feet, analytical skills and oral advocacy.

Approximately fifteen applicants are then invited to the second round interview.

The interview itself covers two broad stages: first, the applicant is provided with an opportunity to present their oral argument or opinion to the panel, and questions will be asked in relation to that legal problem. Secondly, applicants will be asked questions about their academic record and previous experience. The second round interview lasts approximately thirty minutes.
Description of chambers

Wilberforce Chambers is a leading commercial chancery set of chambers and is involved in some of the most commercially important and cutting-edge litigation and advisory work undertaken by the Bar today. Members are recognised by the key legal directories as leaders in their fields. Instructions come from top UK and international law firms and professional services organisations, providing a complex and rewarding range of work for international companies; financial institutions; well-known names; sports and media organisations; pension funds; commercial landlords and tenants; and private individuals. Our clients demand high intellectual performance and client-care standards but in return the reward is a successful and fulfilling career at the Bar.

Areas of work

Practice areas include arbitration; commercial; insolvency; pensions; professional liability; property; and trusts; tax, probate and estates. Members are experienced in litigation as well as alternative dispute resolution, and instructions originate from across the UK and overseas.

Who should apply

We look to offer up to four 12-month pupillages. You should possess high intellectual ability, excellent communication skills and a strong motivation to do commercial chancery work. You need to be mature and confident, have the ability to work with others and analyse legal problems clearly, demonstrating commercial and practical good sense. Our policy is to offer pupillage only to those people we think have real potential to join us as tenants at the end of their pupillage, and we take great care in our selection process and put effort into providing an excellent pupillage. We have a minimum requirement of a 2.1 degree in law or another subject, and we have a good track record of taking on GDL students.

Pupillage programme

We operate a well-structured pupillage programme aimed at providing you with a broad experience of commercial chancery practice under several pupil supervisors with whom you will be able to develop your skills. We aim to reach a decision about tenancy after approximately 9–10 months, but all pupils are entitled to stay with us for the remainder of their pupillage on a full pupillage award.

When and how to apply

Applications for pupillage must be made through the Pupillage Gateway, the online pupillage application scheme, except where an applicant is exempt under the applicable rules. Visit www.pupillagegateway.com for full details of how the Gateway operates and to find our application form. Here you will also find the application deadline and schedule. We operate an initial long list general interview before selecting a shortlist of candidates for a more in-depth interview that aims to test legal aptitude by reference to a problem question.

Mini-pupillages

We encourage potential candidates for pupillage to undertake a mini-pupillage with us in order to learn how we operate, to meet members of chambers and to see the type of work that we do – but a mini-pupillage is not a prerequisite for pupillage. We run four separate mini-pupillage weeks (in November, March and July). Please visit our website for an application form and for further information.

Sponsorship/funding

We offer a generous and competitive pupillage award which we review annually with the intention that it should be in line with the highest awards available. The award is £75,000 for pupillages commencing October 2024 and is paid in monthly installments. A proportion of the award (up to £30,000) can be drawn down during the Bar course year.
Services for pupils and junior tenants

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The Bar Council’s Pupillage Gateway is the online application system for pupillage. Prospective candidates can use their Pupillage Gateway accounts to search for vacancies and prepare their applications in advance for the recruitment process of Authorised Education and Training Organisations that accept applications through the system.

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45 3 Hare Court
46 Henderson Chambers
47 11KBW
48 Keating Chambers
50 12 King’s Bench Walk
51 Landmark Chambers
52 Maitland Chambers
53 New Court Chambers
54 4 New Square
55 XXIV Old Buildings
56 Old Square Chambers
57 Outer Temple Chambers
58 3 Paper Buildings (3PB)
59 Pump Court Tax Chambers
60 Quadrant Chambers
62 Queen Elizabeth Building
61 South Square
64 4 Stone Buildings
65 Temple Garden Chambers
66 2 Temple Gardens
67 3 Verulam Buildings
68 Wilberforce Chambers

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