

Jack Harris



YEAR OF CALL: 2012

INN: LINCOLN'S INN

“ Jack is highlighted for his strong work across a range of family matters. He practises predominantly in financial remedy work. ‘He is a strong, robust advocate who is able to strike up a good rapport with instructing solicitors and clients alike’. ‘He is able to advise clients on often complex and difficult situations in an empathetic yet robust manner’. ‘He is whip smart and an eloquent advocate’.”

CHAMBERS UK, 2023

Practice Overview

Jack is a specialist family barrister with a busy court-based practice and with a particular emphasis on financial remedies under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 and Schedule 1 Children Act 1989. He is equally at home advising on and representing clients in private law disputes involving children which means his clients can have continuity of counsel where there are simultaneous financial remedy and Children Act proceedings.

He is consistently ranked in both The Legal 500 and Chambers UK, and is recognised for his excellent client-care skills, the depth, breadth and clarity of his advice, and his eloquent and robust advocacy.

Areas of Expertise

Family & Divorce

Children Private Law

Jack has over 8 years' experience in representing parents in private law disputes about their children, ranging from disputes about child arrangements to relocation and to schooling, to name but a few, and happily accepts instructions where Children Act disputes run in conjunction with financial remedy proceedings.

Jack draws on the experience and expertise for which he is known to attempt amicably to resolve often highly acrimonious and emotional disputes wherever possible, but will take a robust approach to litigation if

this is required.

Divorce & Financial Remedy

Jack is frequently instructed in cases with complex issues involving companies, farms, trusts, pensions, pre/post nuptial agreements, foreign and inherited wealth, and cases involving disputes about matrimonial / non-matrimonial property and intervenor issues, as well as cases involving more modest means.

An empathetic and pragmatic advocate, Jack is known for his ability swiftly narrow down the key issues. He will strive to achieve settlement wherever possible but will take a robust approach if litigation is inevitable.

Some examples of his recent cases include:

- ▶ Successfully representing a spouse in their support of an intervenor in an application for the return of monies loaned to the spouses to buy a property during the course of their marriage.
- ▶ Successfully opposing a notice of an application to show cause on the basis that the agreement struck between the parties was unfair in relation to pensions.
- ▶ Successfully negotiating a settlement in a multi-million-pound case involving a family business, serious conduct allegations, allegations of significant dissipation of matrimonial assets, and 'add-back' arguments.
- ▶ Capital and pension issues in a more modest case arising from one spouse having a significantly reduced life expectancy.
- ▶ A case in which conduct, arising from findings of domestic abuse and coercive and controlling behaviour in Children Act proceedings, is being pursued in financial remedy proceedings.

Recommendations

“An eloquent advocate who exudes warmth and charm.”

LEGAL 500, 2023
DIVORCE & FINANCIAL REMEDY

“He is extremely well-prepared and approachable. He provides realistic advice, and is always willing to go the extra mile for a client.”

LEGAL 500, 2022
FAMILY AND CHILDREN LAW

“Jack is enthusiastic and has an excellent client manner. He narrows down the key issues swiftly and works very hard to reach an amicable settlement while never forgetting the clients' objectives. He is tenacious in his approach, leaving clients reassured and fully supported.”

CHAMBERS UK, 2021
FAMILY/MATRIMONIAL

“Good on his feet and great with clients.”

LEGAL 500, 2021
FAMILY AND CHILDREN LAW

Professional Memberships

- ▶ The Honourable Society Of Lincoln' S Inn
- ▶ The Family Law Bar Association
- ▶ Bar Pro Bono Unit
- ▶ The Western Circuit

Qualifications & awards:

- ▶ LLB Hons (Queen Mary, University Of London); First Class
- ▶ BPTC (The City of Law School): Outstanding.

Additional information:

Jack is originally from Devon and moved to London to undertake his legal education and training. After reading law at Queen Mary, University of London, Jack joined the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn and undertook the BPTC at The City Law School. Jack returned to the West Country to undertake his pupillage at St John's Chambers in October 2013 under the supervision of Nick Miller, Dianne Martin, and Zoe Saunders. Upon successful completion of his pupillage Jack accepted an offer of Tenancy in October 2014.

Contact the clerks:

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