

Chloë Ashley

Call: 2015

"Chloe has excellent client care skills. She does a detailed review of all material and instructions. She is very competent in court, always protecting clients' interests."

Legal 500 2024

Chloë Ashley is a highly regarded specialist criminal advocate, regularly instructed in serious and sensitive cases.

Chloë's work has a particular focus on allegations of non-accidental injuries in infants and cases of child homicide. Advocacy of both frequently involves co-ordination of specialist expert evidence.

Previous instructions include Operation Kenita, which concerned the death of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes in which Chloë defended his father and Operation Lanvigator in which Chloë was instructed to prosecute a mother convicted of the historic murder of her new-born son, when she was aged 15.

Chloë's other homicide cases have encompassed a multitude of complex issues, including gang-related bad character, anonymous witnesses and child defendants. She is recognised for her ability to win the trust of even the most justifiably self-protective witnesses.

In addition, Chloë both prosecutes and defends in cases involving sophisticated organised crime groups and criminal conspiracies. Chloë's practice extends to cases involving alleged modern slavery and large-scale drug conspiracies.

In her capacity as a barrister Chloë maintains a focus on human rights which originated in her previous career, where she worked for specialist women's rights charities and international NGO's focused on human rights issues including counter-terrorism measures and assisting individuals facing the death penalty abroad.

Chloë retains a special interest in the representation of women, those with both mental health issues and intellectual disabilities within the criminal justice system and is often counsel of choice for solicitors representing clients whose acute vulnerability, or where utilisation of psychiatric evidence, may be integral to their case

Equally committed to improving equality and diversity inside the Bar as outside, Chloë is passionate about issues concerning equality, diversity, and social mobility at the Bar. She contributes to events and networks encouraging aspiring lawyers from marginalised backgrounds to pursue a career at the Bar, while mentoring students members of the Inner Temple. She is presently undertaking assessments to become an advocacy trainer.

Chloë was ranked by The Legal 500 as a Tier 1 "rising star" in the 2024 listings.

Birmingham

103 Colmore Row
Birmingham
B3 3AG

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London

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Bristol

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Tel: +44 (0) 117 917 8501

Expertise

Crime

Chloë has an established practice dealing with complex, high-profile cases. She is a sought-after advocate recognised for her articulate, persuasive advocacy and meticulous attention to detail.

Chloë has a loyal following of professional clients. She is regularly instructed by leading criminal defence firms and the CPS' Complex Casework Unit.

Chloë is frequently instructed in serious, multi-handed criminal cases, including gang related violence, drug conspiracies, homicide, and other serious organised crime. She has a successful track record of both prosecuting and defending in such cases.

Chloë's recent and ongoing work has a particular focus on cases of non-accidental injuries in very young children, child homicide and the representation of defendants in grave cases who are acutely vulnerable due to their age or mental illness.

Awards



Accreditations

- 2023 Inner Temple Scholarship to attend Keble College's Tim Dutton CBE KC International Advocacy Course
- 2023 The Inns of Court Pegasus Scholarship Trist, Pegasus Scholar (USA)
- 2022 Nominated for 'Barrister of the Year' Birmingham Law Society Awards
- 2019 Nominated for the Frist 100 Years, Inspirational Women in Law Awards (under 35 category)
- 2017 Inner Temple Rachel Lawrence Scholarship
- 2015 Inner Temple Sir Joseph Priestly Scholarship
- 2013 Inner Temple Major Exhibition Awards (BPTC Award)
- Inner Temple Duke Of Edinburgh Award
- 2011 University of Sheffield Graduate Award

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Appointments

- 2022 to 2023 Executive Committee Criminal Bar Association
- 2021 to 2022 Executive Committee The Young CBA Committee
- 2020 Senior Crown Prosecutor West Midlands CPS Seconded Grade 3 Panel
- 2019 to 2022 Secretary Women in Criminal Law Midlands
- 2019 to 2023 Committee Member Midlands Circuit Women's Forum
- 2018 to 2019 Independent Legal Advisor CPS West Midlands Hate Crime Panel
- 2018 to 2022 Criminal Law Committee Birmingham Law Society

Qualifications

- 2015 University of West of England, BPTC
- 2013 College of Law, PGDL
- 2015 Accredited Civil and Commercial Mediator Certified by ADR Group London
- 2011 The University of Sheffield, Philosophy BA (Hons)

Comments from instructing solicitors

"A very intelligent advocate who can master complex expert evidence, distil it and present it effectively to both lay clients and a jury."

"Her closing speeches are flawless and a joy to watch, jury's absolutely love her."

"A very intelligent advocate who can master complex expert evidence, distil it and present it effectively to both lay clients and a jury."

"She is always top of our list when it comes to instructing in complex, serious cases. Chloe is extremely hard working, diligent, and leaves no piece of plausible evidence unexplored. She has an unrivalled commitment to her clients. She genuinely cares for them and their welfare and to that end she will fight hard for the right result for them."

"Her work is creditworthy of an advocate of 20 years' call. She is very impressive on her feet."

"Her cross-examination is extremely good; she gets under a witness' skin and will persevere until she gets the answer she wants."

"Chloe is a joy to instruct, she consistently shows our clients a level of care and commitment which surpasses any expectation."

"Ms Ashley endears herself to clients almost immediately, she exudes warmth, even with the most challenging of clients she will win them over. Her presentation in court is faultless- she quickly masters the evidence in a way that lends itself well to a jury. Judges she appears before value her commitment to her cases and her opponents respect her for it."

"She has a real command of the law and evidence in any case I instruct her in- which can only come from a brilliant mind. Judges commend her for her forensic attention to detail."

"Her preparation is meticulous... I receive nothing but excellent feedback from clients, they all warm to her especially youths."

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“Her ability to meet and exceed our client’s expectations is second to none. Her relatively, junior status is ignored by clients who see her as personable, intelligent, and savvy...she is mature beyond her years.”

“Ms Ashley has always offered us an unparalleled level of service. She is totally devoted to her clients’ cases and achieving the best possible outcome. Her preparation is pain-staking and thorough. She is first class.”

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