



# Michelle Christie

## Joint Head of Chambers

Year of Call: 1999

**Inn of Court:** Middle Temple

**Degree:** LL.B (Hons)

**Practice Areas:** Family Law specialist including Public and Private law

### Listed as a leading junior in Family and Children Law in the legal 500.

*"A zealous advocate with exemplary attention to detail"*

**Michelle is a specialist in the law relating to children. Her practice consists of approximately 90% Public Law through which she represents the full ambit of parties; parents including via the Official Solicitor, local authorities, Children's Guardians and children who can be represented in their own right.**

**Michelle has particular expertise in the following areas:**

- Infant deaths and near fatal injuries
- Complex medical cases.
- Sexual abuse including inter-familial and inter-sibling.
- Running Care proceedings where there are concurrent criminal proceedings.

**On occasion Michelle conducts complex Private Law Children proceedings involving:**

- Allegations of abuse are raised.
- Parental Alienation is considered an issue.
- There is a high profile element.

**Michelle is popular with Solicitors and Lay Clients as a result of;**

- Her forensic skills and exceptionally thorough case preparation and analysis
- The quality of her preparatory and written work, which has often attracted praise from the judiciary in judgments.
- Michelle's cross-examination techniques of experts and other witnesses.
- Michelle's exceptional advocacy skills are coupled with a very personable and kind approach to lay clients, which assist greatly in making the court process less daunting.

Michelle has been junior to leading counsel on many occasions and has had the pleasure of being led by Jo

Delhunty QC, Leslie Samuels QC and Cyrus Larizadeh QC. Michelle also acts as a leading junior in certain complex cases.

**Michelle has appeared in a number of high profile and interesting cases including:**

Michelle acted as leading junior and led Miss Hannah Mettam in a case described by Mr Justice Keehan as the worst case of child abuse he has ever had the misfortune to deal with in his 30 years at the Bar and High Court bench. She appeared against Sarah Morgan QC and Will Tyler QC in a case which involved medical evidence of the most complex nature and concerned issues of serious psychiatric and psychological dysfunction.

**Other recently reported cases:**

C (A child : Fact Finding : Delay) [2014] EWFC B72 (21 November 2014)

ED, Re [2015] EWFC B84 (29 May 2015)

NORHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL v (1) MZ (2) FD (3) FL (2015)

P (A Child), Re [2018] EWCA Civ 720 (11 April 2018)

**PRO BONO WORK:**

Michelle is very much committed to pro bono representation and is willing to continue to represent clients in circumstances where funding is no longer available and the interests of justice require continued representation.

