



Kyle Squire (2013)

Barrister

Call: 2013

Please call 020 7353 2532 to instruct



Practice overview

Kyle specialises in family law (with an emphasis on children cases) and Court of Protection (health and welfare). He is regularly instructed in cases where these two jurisdictions interact. In the past 12 months Kyle has been involved in a number of cases involving allegations of the most serious nature, including fabricated and induced illness, non-accidental head injuries, and forced marriage of young people. He has acted in cases which consider difficult questions of capacity relating to adolescents and young adults, including in relation to medical treatment, as well as community care issues and protecting vulnerable adults from forced marriage and acting to remedy the consequences of a forced or incapacitous marriage. Kyle has experience of representing parties who speak only limited English, and of dealing with cross examination in complex factual scenarios through interpreters.

Kyle approaches his cases in an empathetic manner and strives to understand the difficult predicament in which clients find themselves. He acknowledges that families are likely to be facing the most challenging periods in their lives and will do his utmost to ensure that the legal process is made as manageable as possible. Solicitors describe him as having a *"calm and reassuring presence which puts clients at ease immediately"* and bringing *"a calmness to even the most difficult of cases with depth of knowledge about the law and the intricacies of the case before the court"*.

Kyle completed a secondment as a judicial assistant to Lieven J in the Family Division of the

High Court at the end of 2019 giving him insight into the working of the court, and exposure to numerous significant cases. He is currently seconded to Great Ormond Street Hospital as their Trust Barrister and Head of the Legal Team. Kyle is a contributing author to LexisPSL expert Q&A panel.

Kyle is named as a Rising Star for Children Law (Public and Private) in the [Legal 500 2021](#) and the [Legal 500 2022](#). The 2021 edition described that he *"has an eye for detail. He is able to disseminate complex information quickly but with accuracy. Kyle is approachable and friendly. He is articulate during his advocacy, addresses all relevant complex points without being verbose"*.



Children law (public)

Kyle has a significant practice in public children proceedings. He acts for local authorities, parents, children, other relatives and potential Special Guardians.

Kyle is regularly instructed in cases involving challenging evidence and complex legal issues. His recent cases include non-accidental injuries (including shaking injuries); sexual abuse of young children; FII; cases which involve forced marriage and female genital mutilation; and cases with an international element, including placement outside of the jurisdiction.

Kyle regularly represents vulnerable parties through litigation friends and often the Official Solicitor. His knowledge of Court of Protection issues complements his work with vulnerable parents well, and he had been described by solicitors as *'going above and beyond what is expected of counsel'*. Kyle's knowledge of Court of Protection proceedings means he is well placed to advise and act in cases involving deprivation of liberty; young people transitioning from children to adult social care services; and medical decision making relating to children. He acts in cases which span the two jurisdictions, including those for young people approaching adulthood.

Children law (private)

Kyle is very experienced at representing clients in private children law disputes, and regularly acts at all stages through to final hearings, including complex and lengthy fact finding hearings. He is good at finding a way to resolve matters, even in cases of what appear to be intractable opposition, but will advocate strongly for his clients in court if settlement out of court is not possible.

Kyle has experience in acting in cases where it is alleged that a child will suffer significant harm in the care of a parent, including allegations of sexual abuse and cult affiliation.

International family law

Kyle is experienced at dealing with cases with an international element, including cases where there is to be a placement abroad and those where families are seeking to bring a child from overseas to the UK to care for them. Kyle has experience in advising families on international adoption, including adoption from non-Hague countries.

Kyle also has experience of international child abduction and understands the need to swiftly develop a coherent and robust strategy to successfully achieve the return of children from abroad.

Whilst acting as a judicial assistant, Kyle was involved in a number of international child abduction cases (both Hague and non-Hague).

Court of Protection

Kyle regularly appears in the Court of Protection. He has appeared on behalf of the Official Solicitor, local authorities, and CCGs. He has experience of acting in applications relating to personal welfare, DoLS challenges, and experience of use of the inherent jurisdiction. He regularly acts for the Official Solicitor on behalf of protected parties.

Kyle's experience in family law makes him particularly well suited to advise in cases where a young person is transitioning from child social care to adult social care services, or where there are issues concerning forced or incapacitous marriage. He has acted in a number of such cases, and has advised on, and successfully sought declaration for, breaches of Articles 5, 6 and 8 against local authorities.

Kyle has acted in cases concerning significant medical treatment, and the necessity for deprivations of liberty to ensure treatment is maintained. Kyle represented the local authority in *A Local Authority v KK & JK & Ors [2020] EWCOP 68*, an application for a Deprivation of Liberty order in respect of a young adult who mismanaged her diabetes to the point that she was close to death. It was heard in the Family Division until she turned 18 when it transferred to the Court of Protection which discharged the order having considered the balance between protecting her rights and forcing treatment on an adult with capacity.

Education

- LL.B. (Hons) University of Hull

Memberships

- Family Law Bar Association
- Court of Protection Bar Association
- Trustee: Live Unlimited

Prizes

- Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Hubert Greenland Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Dean's Award for Highest Performance in Civil Litigation on BPTC
- Dean's Award for Highest Performance in Criminal Litigation on BPTC
- OUP prize for Transnational Commercial Law

Notable Cases

[Re K & L \[2021\] EWFC B39](#): Acted for a mother in a fact finding hearing relating to a Forced Marriage Protection Order where there were complexities because the client spoke only limited English and had to give evidence through an interpreter, and significant cultural issues which had to be taken into account.

[A County Council v KK & Ors \[2020\] EWCOP 68](#): Acted for a local authority in proceedings before a High Court judge concerning an 18 year old woman and whether it was in her best interests to be deprived of her liberty for the purpose of medical treatment.

[Re KK \(2021\) \(COP\)](#): Acting for P before Keehan J in a case where there were complex issues of fluctuating capacity and appropriateness of declarations of incapacity.

[Re ZA \(2020\)](#): Acting for a mother through the Official Solicitor in care proceedings where it is alleged she was subject to forced marriage, and in concurrent proceedings in High Court for declaration of non-recognition of the marriage.

[Re VW \(2020\)](#): Led junior in significant case of FII, where findings made that newborn child was repeatedly smothered to obtain medical treatment.

Re BW (2020) (COP): Acting for P through Official Solicitor in case where he successfully sought declarations of breaches of P's article 5, 6 and 8 rights by the local authority.