

Joanna Gillan

Call: 2010

Contact Joanna Directly: 020 7353 6802 or
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Joanna is a specialist Family and Civil barrister, with a particular emphasis on Financial Remedy hearings, TOLATA matters, Child Contact hearings and Property Law. She is known for her persuasive and poignant oral arguments, and her ability to digest and present facts and figures effectively and efficiently. She has an empathetic and approachable professional manner, whilst making robust and authoritative submissions in court. Joanna is often instructed for advice work and prides herself on providing 'to the point', helpful and practical written documents.

Having successfully yielded wins on a number of boarder-line cases, Joanna is very adapt at being able to fit together law and facts to provide the final point that the Judge can 'hang his hat on'. Having recently successfully argued a niche issue as to whether the costs ordered on an Occupation Order had been consumed by the subsequent Consent Order at an FDR (pre Decree Absolute), it is of note that her particular practice areas make her an advocate who can touch upon an array of knowledge to create forceful, well thought-out arguments.

Before joining the self-employed Bar, Joanna worked as an advocate at a national solicitors firm specialising in general Civil Litigation, Employment Law and Costs. Her Common Law pupillage and consequential time in the Criminal Courts has afforded her a complete and well-rounded background in advocacy. Joanna is a confident and compassionate barrister, making her the ideal Counsel on cases involving nervous and vulnerable clients, or on cases, which require a strong and assertive Counsel. Her most loyal instructing solicitors would say that one of her biggest assets is her ability to understand a case quickly; provide advice based on a forensic analysis of the facts; and keep a client happy and confident in her ability throughout.

Joanna is qualified to accept instructions via the Direct Access Scheme.

Recent cases:

DA v LA [2019/20] – Extensive costs argument over various hearings concerning the construction of an FDR Consent Order, and the inclusion of costs from separate proceedings involving the same parties;

Location

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Family

Joanna is a family law specialist, highly experienced in all areas of Child and Family law, with a particular emphasis on Financial Remedy hearings. Her areas of expertise include public and private law applications under the Children Act 1989 (with expertise in both making and defending Schedule 1 applications): securing injunctive relief under the Family Law Act 1996 and, applications under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973. Having more recently developed her Care practice, Joanna is regularly instructed by parents in public law children cases.

With a broad range of experience in Matrimonial Finance matters, she often sees a way to settlement where others do not. Her ability to effectively “cut to the issue” makes her successful at dealing with emotionally charged cases to achieve the best result for her clients. Her forensic analysis of her briefs leads to a detailed understanding of the facts at hand, and her meticulous and rigorous approach to preparation in every case means that clients receive a consistently high level of service and representation. She is often praised for her clear written notes and straightforward presentation of often complex financial information. Her detailed analysis of court papers means she is confident in her ability to interrogate financial disclosure, with winning results.

Joanna has experience in working with cases involving domestic violence. She is noted by her solicitors as having an adaptable, professional and personable approach. Her commitment to client care ensures that professional and lay clients alike are provided with support, advice and attention at every stage of the case

Civil

Joanna accepts instructions in cases across the civil spectrum including: personal injury, contractual disputes, nuisance and boundary disputes, trespass, insolvency, defamation, housing, and landlord and tenant matters. She has a detailed understanding of the Civil Procedure Rules and provides advice on prospects of success in general civil cases, as well as advices on Quantum in personal injury matters. Her organisation and attention to detail enables her to efficiently draft pleadings and other core documents in a timely manner.

Joanna has particular experience in personal injury deafness cases, as well as catastrophic personal injury matters generally.

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- Family Law Bar Association
- Lawyers for Children
- Middle Temple

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