



Duncan Lewis
Solicitors



We give people a voice

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Duncan Lewis Solicitors serves corporate entities and private individuals in over 25 practice areas from offices throughout London and across England and Wales. Established in 1998, the firm has over 550 lawyers delivering legal services in over 60 languages. We have been recognised by independent legal directories, The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners, as a top tier firm and described as a “diligent and professional team that is prepared to go the extra mile for its clients”.

Our head office is based in London, on Fenchurch Street, and we are the largest provider of publicly funded (legal aid) legal services in the country.

Our Services

We are one of the UK’s leading firms of specialist child care solicitors, advising on all children law matters.

Our solicitors advise parents and guardians, as well as other family members and those with, or seeking, guardianship or parental responsibility.

The department consists of accredited members of the Law Society’s Children Law Panel, the Law Society’s Family Law Advanced Panel, Resolution specialist accredited members, and we are one of only a select number of UK firms on the International Child Abduction and Contact Unit (ICACU) referral list.

Our solicitors advise on:

- Adoption/international adoption
- Care proceedings
- Child Arrangements Orders concerning contact and residence
- Child protection conferences
- Children taken into local authority care
- Domestic abuse
- Emergency Protection Orders
- Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders (FGMPO)
- Forced Marriage Protection Orders (FMPO)
- Interim Care Orders
- International and domestic child abduction
- Legal Planning Meetings
- Mediation
- Parental responsibility
- Placement Orders
- Prohibited Steps Orders
- Public Law Outline (PLO) process
- S20 Agreements
- S37 and S47 investigations
- Special Guardianship Orders
- Specific Issue Orders
- Wardship proceedings

Court Orders

When deciding on children law matters, the court will always put the welfare of the child first. In cases where parents, or those with parental responsibility, are in dispute over their children one or both can apply to the family court for a range of court orders to resolve matters, including:

- Child Arrangements Orders concerning contact and residence issues
- Prohibited Steps Orders
- Specific Issue Orders
- Wardship

Private Children Law

How children are going to be cared for can be one of the most challenging aspects of the separation process. Our solicitors can assist where parents are unable to agree on an arrangement amicably.

Child Arrangements Orders: We advise on contact and residence disputes in the event of parents separating. In addition, we can assist in relation to disputes surrounding a specific issue or where one parent seeks to prevent the other from an action.

Public Children Law

We advise and represent parents, other family members, children and children's guardians in all public law proceedings.

Social Services: We advise on cases where children are deemed at risk of harm, have been taken into police protection, or where proceedings have been issued by a local authority. We offer expert legal representation to families facing investigations by social services, including child protection conferences and the Public Law Outline (PLO) process.

Child Abuse: When children are subjected to physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, or psychological abuse, it is vital to seek expert legal help as soon as possible. Our solicitors are experienced in acting in child abuse matters with efficiency and care.

International Child Abduction

We assist in preventing the removal of children from the jurisdiction and also assist if a parent wishes to remove their child from the jurisdiction when the other parent refuses consent. In a situation where the child has already been removed from the UK, we are able to assist in their return.

Fees and Funding

As an essential element of our service we will advise you on the funding options available to you and your case.

Public Funding (Legal Aid)

Legal aid is the public funding of legal services, administered by the Legal Aid Agency to eligible individuals who cannot afford to pay for legal advice and representation. We will advise as to whether legal aid funding may apply in your case. When it does, we can assist you in making the necessary applications for funding and advise you of your financial obligations.

Private Funding

In all privately funded cases, our aim is to offer fair prices in exchange for the specialist services we provide. We offer competitive hourly rates and fixed fee packages to ensure we give your case the best possible chance of success.

At your first meeting with us, we will discuss with you how we calculate our charges. Where possible, this includes a detailed breakdown of the estimated costs.

Offices across England and Wales



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