

Sarah Pinder

Call: 2006

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Sarah practises in the fields of immigration law with some family law (children). She has been recommended as a Leading Junior barrister in Band 4 in immigration law by the Legal 500 2018 edition as *'an excellent advocate with a high success rate because of her aptitude and preparation.'* This adds to her successful entry in the 2017 edition, where Sarah is described as a barrister, whose *'standout qualities are how approachable, level-headed, smart and patient she is'*. Sarah was first listed in the 2014 edition as a *"real rising star"*.

Sarah has recently been appointed as a part-time First-Tier-Tribunal Judge of the Immigration and Asylum Chamber. In July 2015, Sarah was also appointed as an Independent Funding Adjudicator for the Legal Aid Agency. In chambers, Sarah heads up the immigration team together with her colleague Samina Iqbal.

Prior to joining the Bar, Sarah practised in immigration and asylum law as a senior caseworker in a not-for-profit organisation in South London. This has given her the advantage of experience in preparing cases before they reach appeal stage, which she has pooled with her wealth of experience in court hearings as a barrister.

Sarah is committed to publicly funded work and ensuring access to justice for those most vulnerable. She is naturally friendly and approachable as well as meticulous and creative in her approach to cases.

In suitable cases, Sarah will undertake direct access work, directly for members of the public.

Immigration

Sarah is a highly effective and sensitive advocate and is passionate for the field of immigration law and all that it encompasses. Sarah has considerable experience in all aspects of immigration, asylum and human rights law in the immigration tribunals, the High Court and the Court of Appeal.

Sarah has also been instructed by family solicitors to provide expert and independent immigration opinions for

Location

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parties, who have immigration issues and might be involved in care or other proceedings within the family courts.

Sarah is also very experienced at delivering training in immigration law, both through training companies and in-house seminars for firms of solicitors and second-tier organisations. Sarah welcomes these opportunities as a way of updating herself on the law and current practice and liaising with fellow practitioners in a more informal and dynamic environment.

Notable Cases

- Granted permission to apply for judicial review in the High Court in a claim involving a dual British national challenging the fairness and rationality of the SSHD's British passport policy "*Use and Change of Names*" of 16 August 2016.
- Granted permission to apply for judicial review following an oral renewal hearing in a Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) entry clearance case raising irrationality and unfairness grounds in response to a 'genuineness' refusal. This is the second time permission has been granted in the same case as the first set of proceedings settled and the applicant has been refused EC again.
- *Reah, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for the Home Department (IJR)* [2016] UKUT 55 (IAC)
- *LH & IP (gay men: risk) Sri Lanka CG* [2015] UKUT 00073 (IAC)
- *AK & SK (Christians: risk) Pakistan CG* [2014] UKUT 00569 (IAC)
- *Rajbhandari (PBS: funds – available) Nepal* [2012] UKUT 364 (IAC)
- JR challenge: Sarah acted in a JR challenge concerning a detained former member of HM forces from the Commonwealth, which received substantial press coverage ([The Telegraph 14.11.2013](#), [The Times 14.11.2013](#), [The Daily Mail 15.11.2013](#), [The Independent 16.11.2013](#), [The Guardian 16.11.2013](#) & [The BBC 16.11.2013](#))

Publications

- Sarah has recently published a niche guide with Law Brief Publishing on Tier 1 Entrepreneur applications: "*Immigration Law and Tier 1 Entrepreneur Applications*".

Family

Sarah has developed an expertise in family law, specialising in children law, including both private disputes concerning contact and residence arrangements and public / care proceedings. Through this, Sarah has been able to pursue her keen interest in crossover areas concerning children, their best interests and their interplay.

Appointments

- Part-time First-Tier-Tribunal Judge in the Immigration and Asylum Chamber (January 2019)
- Drafting Committee Member, Bar Human Rights Committee (August 2015)
- Independent Funding Adjudicator, Legal Aid Agency (July 2015)

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Memberships

- Human Rights Lawyers Association
- Immigration Law Practitioners Association
- Bar Human Rights Committee

Awards

- Legal 500 – 2018 edition – Band 4: *‘an excellent advocate with a high success rate because of her aptitude and preparation.’*
- Legal 500 – 2017 edition – Band 4: *‘her standout qualities are how approachable, level-headed, smart and patient she is’*
- Legal 500 – 2016 edition – Band 4: *‘her combination of immigration and children law sets her apart’*
- Legal 500 – 2015 edition – Band 4: *‘she has an excellent grasp of the issues’*
- Legal 500 – 2014 edition – Band 4 leading junior counsel in immigration: *‘a real rising star’*

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