

Welcome to the Family Department



KNIGHT
POLSON

SOLICITORS

Our Family Team includes members of Resolution and the Law Society Family Panel. We understand that there is nothing more important than family and are therefore able to offer practical and sensitive support on a wide range of issues. We are committed to helping clients resolve matters following the breakdown of their relationship and other family problems as amicably and effectively as possible.

Our team have the necessary experience, skills and sensitivity to guide you through some difficult choices and to see you safely through to the other side.

In all cases we look to achieve the best possible outcome for you by ensuring that:

- The legal issues are clearly explained to you at the outset
- You are made aware of the prospects of success of your matter and the likely outcome.
- The matter remains cost effective and you receive regular cost updates.

We can offer advice on:

- **Divorce and Financial issues**
- **Mediation**
- **Child Law**
- **Childcare**
- **Protecting rights of parties in an unmarried family**
- **Orders relating to domestic violence**
- **Dissolution of Civil Partnerships**
- **Change of Name for Children**

We have a Legal Services Commission franchise for dealing with family work and therefore are still able to provide an outstanding service to all of our client's irrespective of their means.

If you would like more information about the services the Team can offer, or if you need to discuss any particular problem, please contact one of the Team by email or telephone:

TEL: 023 8064 4822

Nicola Mitchell (Associate Solicitor)

Head of Department, Law Society Family Law Panel Member, Resolution Member

Nicola's expertise is in a wide range of areas including; Divorce, Financial Settlements, Cohabitee Disputes, Domestic Violence, Separation Agreements/Cohabitee Agreements/Pre marital Agreements. As well as representing clients in the above areas she is also a specialist in Private Children Law, Childcare and Child Abduction matters.



Nicola graduated from Leicester University in Law in 1997 and completed her training contract with a large Midlands firm, The Smith Partnership, qualifying as a Solicitor in 2001. Nicola joined Knight & Co in 2003. and is now the Head of the Family Department based at the Romsey Road Office of the merged firm Knight Polson.

Outside of Work, Nicola enjoys spending time with her own family, reading and walking. She also enjoys foreign travel

Email: nicola.mitchell@knightpolson.co.uk

Helen Baverstock (Associate Solicitor)

Resolution Member

Helen graduated in Law, becoming a solicitor in 1973. Except for the 10 years that Helen allowed herself to bring up her children, she has spent her career specialising in Family matters.



Helen has particular experience acting on behalf of clients serving in the Royal Navy and has a good knowledge of other Forces procedures.

In her spare time Helen enjoys reading, listening to music, and needlework. She is a member of the Anglican Church and has been a bell ringer for ages.

Email: helen.baverstock@knightpolson.co.uk

Katie Johnson (Assistant Solicitor)

Katie graduated from Bournemouth University with a 2.1 degree in Law in 2005. She then went to work at Caroline Coats Solicitors in Blackfield dealing mostly with Wills, Probate and Enduring Powers of Attorney.



Katie joined Knight Polson as a Trainee in June 2007 and qualified as a Solicitor in January 2009. Katie specialises in Divorce, Financial Settlements and Private Children Law.

In her spare time Katie enjoys playing her saxophone, reading and eating out.

Email: katie.johnson@knightpolson.co.uk

Samantha Freeman (Legal Assistant)

Resolution Member

Sam joined the Family Department at Knight Polson in May 2008, she specialises in Divorce, Financial Settlements, Cohabitee Disputes, Domestic Violence, Separation Agreements, Cohabitee Agreements and Pre-marital Agreements. Sam also specialises in Private Children Law and Childcare.



Sam graduated from Solent University with a 2.1 degree in Legal Studies in 2003. Sam then joined Frettons in Christchurch.

Sam has been working toward completing her Legal Executive Qualification. She currently has one more exam to take, upon passing which Sam will become a member of ILEX.

In her spare time, Sam enjoys reading, horse riding, playing squash and watching sports.

Email: samantha.freeman@knightpolson.co.uk

Sarah Daish (Trainee Solicitor)

Sarah graduated from Solent University with a 2.1 degree in Law in 2007. She is in the process of completing her Legal Practice Course at the College of Law in Guildford.



Sarah started working for the firm Dominy and Morrish in 2003. The firm merged with Knight & Co in 2005. Sarah has 3 years experience in family law and is due to qualify as a solicitor in 2010. She hopes to remain in the Family Department once qualified.

Sarah's spare time is taken up with planning her forthcoming wedding and juggling study and family life.

Email: sarah.daish@knightpolson.co.uk

Maggie Seacombe (Legal Secretary)

Maggie has been with Knight Polson for 14 years. Initially as the Assistant to the Managing Partner, she moved on to the criminal department for a brief time before settling in the family department in 2003 where she has been ever since.

Email: maggie.seacombe@knightpolson.co.uk

Eileen Hoad (Legal Secretary)

Eileen joined the family department at Knight Polson 11 years ago. In 2002 she moved to the residential conveyancing department where she remained for 5 years. Eileen returned to the family department at Knight Polson in October 2007.

Email: eileen.hoad@knightpolson.co.uk

Marilyn Waterhouse (Legal Secretary)

Marilyn is secretary to Helen Baverstock. She attended a school which specialised in secretarial training and has worked for a number of solicitors firms before joining Knight Polson in 1991.

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This leaflet is not a complete guide to the law and is not intended to be a guide to how the law will apply to you or to any specific situation. You should speak to a professional about your particular problem.

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