Pupillage

LANDMARK
CHAMBERS

During your pupillage, you will have the opportunity to work with a cross-section of Chambers' barristers. This will allow you to experience a wide variety of work and take advantage of Landmark's unique position as a leading specialist set, with significant overlap between its private and public law practices."

Richard Moules KC, Chair of the Pupillage Committee

About Chambers

Landmark is a leading chambers based in London offering integrated advocacy and advice in planning, property, environmental, public, local government, and rating and valuation law.

Landmark is ranked as the number one planning, property, environmental and local government chambers in the UK by the top legal directories. We are regarded as one of the leading sets in our other main areas of work and have won Property & Housing Set of the Year and Planning & Land Use Set of the Year at recent industry awards.

As well as offering junior tenants access to some of the most high profile cases in our core areas, Landmark prides itself on providing an excellent support infrastructure, investing in ongoing training and development for all members and providing a dedicated Practice Management team designed to assist new barristers establishing their careers.



Wellbeing

Landmark aspires to be both a good employer and to create a safe environment from which barristers and pupils can practice. Our aim is to encourage and facilitate working practices and provide services that support the health and wellbeing of all barristers, pupils and staff.

We offer a range of wellbeing initiatives and support backed up by strong governance arrangements and policy. Further information regarding Chambers' wellbeing initiatives may be found on our website.



Planning law

Landmark's barristers act on many of the country's major planning and infrastructure schemes for clients across all sectors, representing the public sector, developers, local authorities, landowners and objectors. We appear at many of the largest planning inquiries every year and advise on development schemes at all stages. Our expertise spans the full spectrum of planning and development work, including advising on the implementation and interpretation of the Government's revised National Planning Policy Framework and the emerging draft London Plan, both of which are reshaping the planning landscape and driving significant changes in housing delivery, infrastructure provision and policy-making. We are continually instructed in major infrastructure projects and are experienced in the various routes to consent, whether through Development Consent Orders under the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects regime established by the Planning Act 2008, Transport and Works Act Orders, planning permissions or hybrid Bills.

Property law

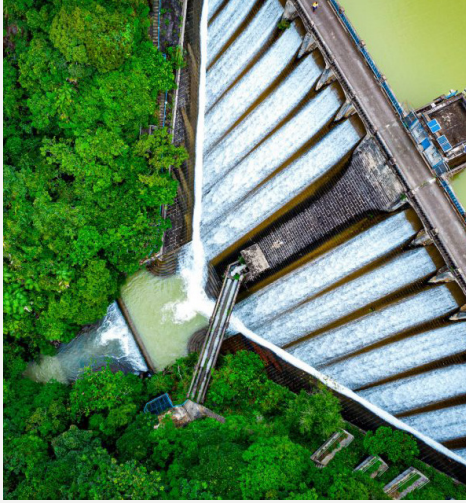
Our expertise includes traditional land law matters, such as conveyancing disputes, mortgages and property finance, restrictive covenants and easements, and all aspects of commercial landlord and tenant law. Landmark's barristers are regularly involved in contractual disputes relating to property, particularly overage disputes, as well as cases concerning nuisance, trespass, protest and the property-related aspects of professional negligence law.

We are regularly instructed in significant appeals before the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court, acting in cases that shape and clarify the law in the property and housing sectors. Members of Chambers have also been closely involved in advising on the development and implementation of major legislative reforms, including the Renters' Rights Act, helping clients navigate the evolving regulatory framework for residential landlords, tenants and property professionals. Specialisms include rights of light, party walls, the Building Safety Act, the Electronic Communications Code, manorial rights, village greens and enfranchisement.



Environmental law

We regularly act on behalf of the Government, regulators, industry, private individuals and groups on wide ranging issues relating to air quality, access to environmental justice (including Aarhus Convention proceedings), minerals and waste, contaminated land, pollution, climate change, emissions trading, water, nutrient neutrality, air quality, wildlife, environmental permitting and regulation (including the marine environment), environmental assessment, energy (including renewables), environmental information, utilities, habitats and species protection, nuisance and issues relating to access to the countryside, commons and village greens.



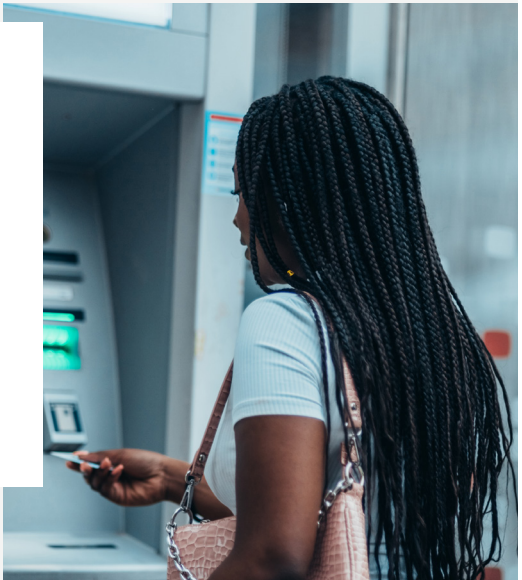


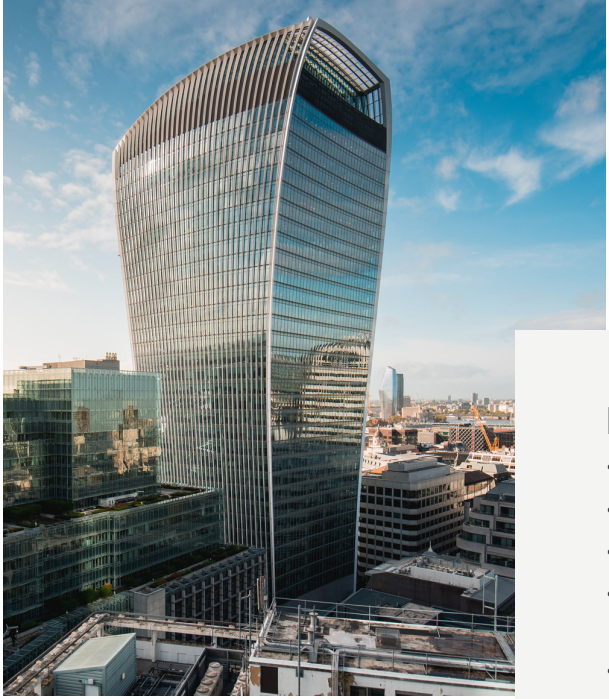
Public law

Landmark's barristers handle complex public law cases and provide advice on public law issues for government departments, local government, other public bodies, NGOs, charities and individuals. Our expertise covers the spectrum of public law, from the law of the NHS through to the rules affecting the detention of asylum seekers. We have particular expertise in bringing and defending all aspects of human rights claims in whatever context they arise.

Rating and Valuation law

Our barristers act for and advise ratepayers of all sizes (from sole traders to multinational corporations), numerous billing authorities, and the Valuation Office Agency. We have unrivalled experience and expertise in valuation matters, including purchase/option agreements, overage agreements, leasehold enfranchisement, compulsory purchase and rent review. Landmark's barristers have appeared in almost all of the rating cases to have reached the Supreme Court in recent years. Members of Chambers are the editors of the Encyclopaedia of Rating Law and are regularly published in specialist journals.





Key cases

Planning key cases

- All England Club's Wimbledon expansion
- Marlow Film Studios: £750 million film studio
- Gatwick, Heathrow and Luton airport expansion
- Northfleet Harbourside: 3,500 homes, hotel and football stadium
- Sunnica Solar Farm: 500 megawatts of renewable energy
- National Grid Norwich to Tilbury: 400kV electricity transmission connection

Property key cases

- Fearn and others v The Board of Trustees of the Tate Gallery
- Darwall (wild camping)
- Protester injunctions: airports, universities and others
- Avon Freeholds Ltd v Cresta Court E RTM Company Ltd
- Adriatic Land 5 Limited v Leaseholders of Hippersley Point
- Judicial review of the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024



Environmental key cases

- R (Finch) v Surrey CC
- C G Fry & Son v Secretary of State
- Wildfish v DEFRA
- Friends of the Earth and South Lakeland Action Group v West Cumbria Mining Ltd
- Manchester Ship Canal v United Utilities Water
- R (Friends of the Earth) v Heathrow Airport





Public key cases

- UK Covid-19 Inquiry
- Shamima Begum UK Citizenship
- WASPI Litigation
- Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones), Northern Ireland
- Palestine Action Litigation
- Southport Inquiry
- Post Office Inquiry

Rating and Valuation key cases

- List (VO) v Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
- City of London Corp v Principled Offsite Logistics Ltd
- Nuffield Health v Merton LBC
- Cardtronics UK Ltd and others v Sykes and others (VOs)
- Newbigin (VO) v Monk
- Woolway v Mazars



Pupillage overview

Landmark offers up to three London-based pupillages of twelve months duration each year, during which time our pupils benefit from high-quality and constructive training in all of Chambers' complementary practice areas. We offer a grant of £80,000 per pupil, which includes an optional £30,000 drawdown. Chambers also funds our pupils' attendance at multiple external training events throughout their pupillage year, including the compulsory courses required of pupils by the Bar Standards Board and the Inns of Court.

The pupillage year is divided into four seats of three months each. During the first three seats, we offer our pupils experience in all of Chambers' complementary practice areas. For the final seat each pupil is given an opportunity to express a preference as to the practice area in which they are interested in receiving further training, and the pupil recruited to the property pupillage will be encouraged to take a fourth seat with one of the members of our property team.

Throughout the year we will encourage you to work for a cross-section of Chambers' members and we will arrange for our Silks to act as your satellite supervisors on more complex cases. This will allow you to see a wide variety of work and take advantage of Landmark's unique position as a leading specialist set, with significant overlap between its private law and public law practices. In your second six months you will also be offered opportunities to appear in court on your own account, usually in the County Court or First-Tier Tribunal.

We are committed to providing our pupils with high-quality and constructive training. To that end, you will receive regular feedback from your pupil supervisors and, at the end of the first and third seats, you will be invited to participate in formal feedback sessions with the Chair and Secretaries of our Pupillage Committee. Finally, our pupils participate in, and receive feedback in relation to, three written assessments and one oral advocacy assessment during their pupillage year.

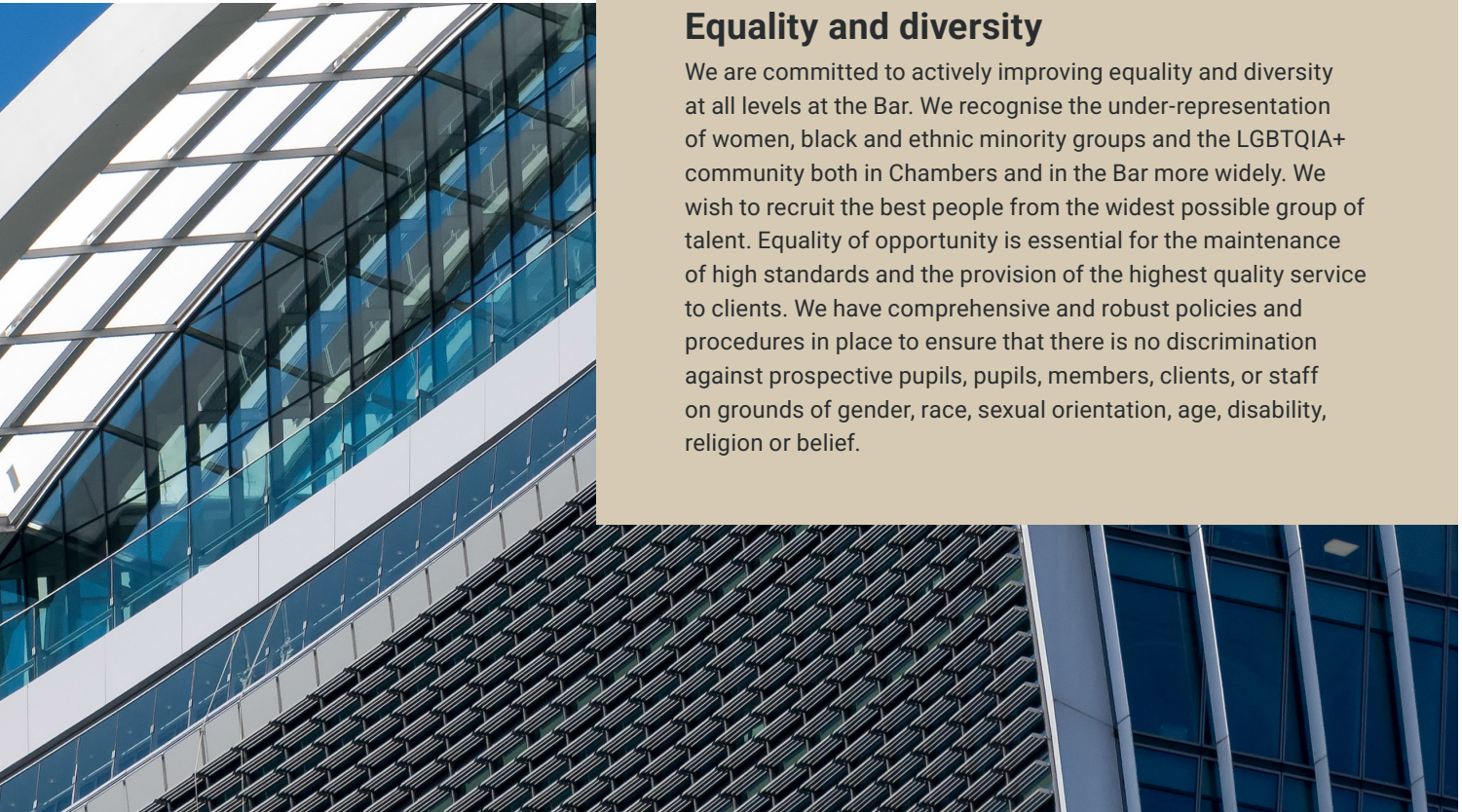


The tenancy decision is taken on individual merit and is usually made after the first three seats of pupillage. Having taken on eight of eight pupils across the past three years, we have an excellent retention rate. However, if we are not able to offer you tenancy at the end of your pupillage, we have a good record of assisting our former pupils in finding probationary tenancy opportunities or tenancies elsewhere.



Equality and diversity

We are committed to actively improving equality and diversity at all levels at the Bar. We recognise the under-representation of women, black and ethnic minority groups and the LGBTQIA+ community both in Chambers and in the Bar more widely. We wish to recruit the best people from the widest possible group of talent. Equality of opportunity is essential for the maintenance of high standards and the provision of the highest quality service to clients. We have comprehensive and robust policies and procedures in place to ensure that there is no discrimination against prospective pupils, pupils, members, clients, or staff on grounds of gender, race, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion or belief.



FAQs

How many pupillage places are available each year?

We offer up to three 12-month pupillages per year: one property pupillage and up to two pupillages for those who have a particular interest in at least one of Landmark's other practice areas. We offer pupillages to those applicants who we believe have a realistic prospect of achieving a tenancy with us. Importantly, our pupils are not in competition with one another for a tenancy but are assessed solely on their own abilities and performance.

Is there a requirement for candidates to have undertaken a mini-pupillage at Landmark?

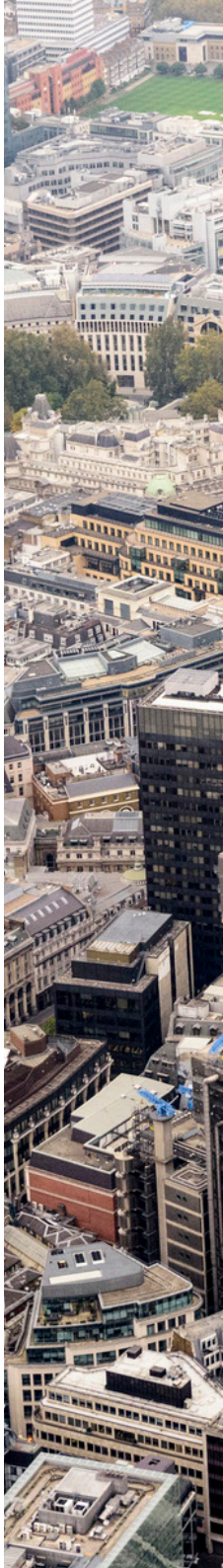
Our mini-pupillages are designed to provide students with valuable insight into the realities of life at the Bar and improve understanding of how our areas of expertise operate in practice. We do not assess our mini-pupils in any way and our placements do not form part of our selection process for pupillage. Further information regarding our mini-pupillage programme may be found on our website.

What pastoral care does Landmark offer?

All pupils are supported by a supervisor, as managed by the Pupillage Committee, which is made up of a cross-section of Chambers' membership. In addition, pupils may be assigned a Silk for more complex cases. Landmark's independent, internal mentoring programme ensures that pupils have more informal support that covers technical, pastoral and career areas separate from their supervisor.

What other resources are available?

Members and pupils are closely supported by an experienced and professional staff team spanning administration, HR, marketing and business development, finance, IT and practice management. Additional resources available to support pupils include access to a comprehensive library of legal texts in Chambers, as well as complimentary access to Chambers' extensive online knowledge resources including Westlaw and LexisNexis. Pupils will also be trained to use the LEX practice management and diary system.





Open evenings

Landmark holds several open evenings throughout the year, which all students in higher education are welcome to attend.

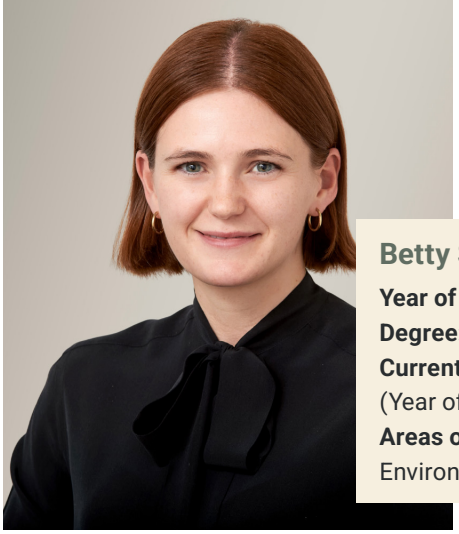
During the events, students are given the opportunity to hear from a diverse range of Chambers' barristers on their areas of expertise. You will also have the opportunity to ask our Pupillage Committee questions about the pupillage application process and the structure of pupillage itself. The next open evenings will be held on Wednesday 18 November 2026, in person, in Chambers and Wednesday 20 January 2027, online, as a virtual event, from 17:00 onwards.

If you are interested in attending an open evening, please contact Landmark's HR and Administration Manager, **Natasha White-Foy** at:

pupillage@landmarkchambers.co.uk



Life as a pupil



Betty Shuttleworth

Year of graduation: 2021 and 2022
Degree: Law; Criminology & Criminal Justice
Current position: Pupil Barrister (Year of Call: 2025)
Areas of practice: Public; Planning; Environment; Property

Suspend your disbelief, but it is possible to have a positive pupillage experience. It requires a set that combines demanding cutting-edge work with an emphasis on learning, not perfection. That was my experience at Landmark.

The structure of Landmark's pupillage, where pupils rotate through its three core practice areas over the first nine months, ensures you are exposed to the full spectrum of Chambers' work. In addition, pupils receive a series of training talks delivered by members who are typically field leaders, alongside spending a week focusing on rating law. The breadth of law covered in pupillage meant I was able to discover new areas to weave into my planned practice.

I found Landmark's culture to be refreshingly modern. There is no strictly enforced sense of hierarchy in Chambers, and when I needed to ask questions, I felt as comfortable popping in to ask a Silk as I did a junior tenant. While you are assigned to one supervisor in each seat, there are plenty of opportunities to interact with other members too. Discussing the fascinating matters people were working on over cake at Landmark's weekly cakes (Mondays at 4pm, a non-negotiable in my diary) often led to me doing tasks for them or going along with them to Court, including to the Supreme Court. I always felt the work I produced was valued, whether it was a research note, skeleton argument, or the first draft of an opinion.

There is no hiding the fact that the work at Landmark is intellectually challenging. How could it not be when the cases Chambers is involved in regularly push the bounds of decided law, calling for creative and lateral thinking? However, I was never expected to work late into the night or at weekends, indeed time off was actively encouraged.

Landmark also ensures that pupils are provided with detailed feedback on each piece of work, so you always know what went well and what needs improvement. Feedback is provided after each assessment: we have three written assessments and two advocacy assessments before the tenancy decision in July. Finally, each pupil gets a dedicated end-of-seat feedback meeting with the Pupillage Committee. All of this combined means that the pupillage process is very transparent, and Landmark's strong retention rate speaks to its efficacy as a model.

At the end of pupillage, in your fourth seat, pupils are asked to indicate the areas of law they wish to focus on. Since being offered tenancy, I have already appeared in the County Court, the First-Tier Immigration Tribunal and the Court of Protection, all while working on interesting papers-based matters too across public, property and planning law. Pupillage is certainly a steep learning curve in a fast-paced environment, but Landmark's process ensures you are ready for life at the junior Bar.

Life as a tenant

Landmark is a very supportive set. The Practice Management team are led by you when it comes to developing your practice. I knew from the outset I wanted to have a strong focus on public interest work. That was never seen as a problem, and a large number of legal aid and pro bono instructions came my way in the first years of practice.

At Landmark there is a sufficient breadth and volume of work that you do not feel like you are competing for a limited number of briefs of whatever kind, nor is there any pressure to pursue only the most high-paying work. On the marketing side, I have received strong support for putting on events for my legal aid and NGO clients.

At the moment I do a lot of work for environmental NGOs, animal rights NGOs, campaign groups and vulnerable individuals. In the last week my caseload has included advice for a marine NGO on criminal liability for oil spills, a dispute in the Upper Tribunal about salmon labelling for an animal rights NGO, two judicial reviews on behalf of severely disabled young people, an unlawful detention claim against the Home Office, two environmental judicial reviews to factory farms for a campaign group, a pro bono proposed intervention in the Supreme Court for a human rights NGO, and a challenge for a landscape charity to the partial diversion of a scenic waterfall in Wales.

I balance this work with better-paid commercial planning cases and advice for schools, local authorities and other public bodies. Landmark offers a considerable volume of well-paid work: some of my colleagues practise exclusively in commercial planning or property law, or a combination of the two, while many balance commercial work with legally aided or reduced fee cases. The ability to undertake better-paid work is a real advantage compared with sets that focus solely on legal aid or NGO matters. At Landmark, it is possible to pursue a practice centred on legal aid and NGO work while maintaining a strong overall income.

You also get top-of-the-market Practice Managers, Administration staff, fee collection and marketing support. Plus, a nice office building with heating and air conditioning. If you are fortunate enough to be in a position to choose between pupillage offers, do not underestimate the value of these benefits.

Overall, my transition from pupillage to tenancy was smooth, and I very quickly found myself doing the kind of work I wanted to do. It is very easy to build the kind of practice you want at Landmark, whatever that may be.



Alex Shattock

Year of graduation: 2012, 2013 and 2018
Degree: Law (BA, LLM, PhD)
Current position: Barrister (Year of Call: 2018)
Areas of practice: Public; Planning; Environment

Access to the legal profession

Landmark is working to improve social mobility at the Bar and increase access to the legal profession. We believe that by working towards a profession that is 'representative of all and for all'; we can better serve our clients and our wider communities. Landmark is involved with several initiatives to support this aim including:

Mentoring scheme for aspiring barristers

Landmark Chambers firmly believes that widening access to the Bar can only serve to drive excellence by enabling us to draw on as wide a pool of talented aspiring barristers as possible.

Along with ten other sets specialising in planning, property, environment and public law, we have set up a mentoring scheme for underrepresented groups at the Bar. The scheme is supported by the Planning and Environmental Bar Association (PEBA) and is intended to encourage undergraduates and postgraduates from groups which are not well represented at the Bar, to consider becoming barristers. The scheme aims to provide advice and guidance to suitable candidates on the process of becoming a barrister.

10,000 Interns Foundation

The 10,000 Interns Foundation champions underrepresented talent and promotes equity of opportunity.

The 10,000 Black Interns and 10,000 Able Interns programmes are initiatives aimed at transforming the horizons and prospects of young Black people, disabled students and graduates of all ethnicities in the UK, by offering paid work experience across a wide range of industries. Training and development opportunities are provided to create a sustainable cycle of mentorship and sponsorship for underrepresented communities.

Bridging the Bar

Landmark offers additional mini-pupillages, over and above its usual quota, to Bridging the Bar, a charity which aims to increase diversity at the Bar by ensuring equal access to opportunity, through a structured mini-pupillage programme and mentoring scheme.

Landmark has committed to providing paid work experience through these programmes, where the interns will have the opportunity to shadow our barristers across our core practice areas.

Landmark mini-pupillage scheme – financial support

We offer all mini-pupils a maximum reimbursement of £100 for reasonable travel and lunch expenses when undertaking a mini-pupillage, to ensure that students from all backgrounds are able to undertake their mini-pupillage at minimal expense to themselves. Landmark also operates a discretionary accommodation funding scheme for students visiting from outside of London.



Charitable donations

We use our annual charitable budget to support those organisations who: (1) focus on the provision of access to justice; and/or (2) undertake legal or charitable work in one or more of Chambers' multi-disciplinary areas of practice.

Recent recipients include Advocate, Support Through Court, The Barristers' Benevolent Association, Shelter, the Kalisher Trust, the London Legal Support Trust, the International Law Book Facility, the Environmental Law Foundation, Trussell Trust, Free Representation Unit and British and Irish Legal Information Institute.

Pro bono work

Members of Chambers regularly undertake pro bono work, including via Advocate and the Free Representation Unit. Landmark Chambers has been awarded the title of 'Gold Circle Pro Bono Patron' by Advocate.

Mini-pupillage

Landmark runs a comprehensive mini-pupillage programme from Chambers' offices in London, taking up to 60 students per annum for a period of three to five days' duration.

Structure of mini-pupillage

During your mini-pupillage, you will be supervised by a junior member of Chambers who will be responsible for ensuring that you participate in a broad cross-section of work.

We will place you with a practitioner who specialises in at least one area of interest to you. This will give you the opportunity to explore what life is like at the junior end of the Bar.

Our mini-pupillages are designed to provide students with valuable insight into the realities of life at the Bar and improve your understanding of how our areas of expertise operate in practice. We do not therefore assess our mini-pupils in any way and our placements do not form part of our pupillage selection process.

Making an application

We run three mini-pupillage intakes per annum and offer between 15 and 20 students a placement during each. The first intake takes place in February and March, the second in May and June and the third, in October and November.

Chambers offers all mini-pupils a maximum reimbursement of £100 for reasonable travel and lunch expenses. Additionally, Landmark operates a discretionary accommodation funding scheme for students visiting from outside of London.

For further details of how to apply, please visit Landmark's mini-pupillage recruitment page.

I couldn't have asked for more from my supervisor, he was friendly, knowledgeable and honest, and I learnt a lot from talking to him.

Landmark have come across in an extremely positive light, and their culture appears enviable. I will definitely be applying here for pupillage in the future."

Frances, Mini-Pupil

Moot competitions

Property

Landmark's Property Moot Competition provides students who are particularly interested in property law, with an opportunity to develop their understanding of the subject and to gain some insight into the realities of practice through meeting members of Landmark's Property Team.

If you are an LLB, LLM, GDL or BPTC student and would like further information, please visit the Moot Competition page on our website.

If you would like to register your University's interest, please send an email to:

propertymoot@landmarkchambers.co.uk

Judicial Review

Landmark's Judicial Review Moot Competition provides students with an excellent opportunity to apply planning and environmental law, in a public law context and gain insight into some of Chambers' key practice areas prior to applying for pupillage.

If you are an LLB, LLM, GDL or BPTC student and would like further information, please visit the Moot Competition page on our website.

If you would like to register your university's interest, please send an email to:

judicialreviewmoot@landmarkchambers.co.uk

Both competitions

Both competitions comprise three knock-out rounds followed by a Grand Final, which traditionally takes place at the Royal Courts of Justice. The two individual competitors in each competition who obtain the highest scores in the Grand Final, will each be awarded £500 and the opportunity to undertake a mini-pupillage in Chambers.

During the first round every student who enters the moot will be provided with the opportunity not only to hone their research, drafting and advocacy skills, but also to hear more from us about life at Landmark and at the Bar. To that end and in addition to the moots themselves, competitors will be given the opportunity to participate in workshops with members of Chambers and ask our Pupillage Committee questions about the pupillage application process and the structure of pupillage itself.

Please note that Landmark Chambers will only accept one team per university, per competition and would therefore prefer to be contacted by a member of faculty or the person responsible for the organisation of external moots.

How to apply

Application process

Landmark participates in the Bar Council's **Pupillage Gateway**. If you wish to apply to undertake a pupillage in our Chambers, please note the timetable below:

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January 2027
Apply through the Pupillage Gateway

February 2027
Shortlisting

March 2027
Assessments

April 2027
Interviews

What is Landmark's selection procedure?

Landmark is committed to furthering equality and diversity at the Bar. We take great care in our selection process to identify candidates whom we believe have a realistic prospect of undertaking a successful pupillage with us. The first selection stage involves a careful review of your application by three members of Chambers. Each member makes an independent assessment, with reference to the Chambers' selection criteria and in line with Landmark's Equality and Diversity policies, to decide whether you should go through to the second stage. All application forms are redacted to remove all personally identifiable information as well as equality and diversity data (including age, gender, ethnicity, religion and disability) prior to being viewed by a marker. This policy has been introduced to remove unconscious bias and promote equality in the application process.

Following a review of all applications, we contact all candidates, either to invite them to sit an assessment or to inform them that their application has been unsuccessful.

The second stage is a one hour written assessment, for which no preparation is required. If your assessment is successful, you will then be invited for an interview, which forms the final stage of the application process. The interview panel will comprise Landmark's Practice Directors and members of Chambers from a cross-section of seniority.

Offers of pupillage are made to successful candidates chosen on the basis of their application form, assessment score and performance at interview.

I have previously applied for pupillage at Landmark but my application was not successful. May I re-apply?

Yes. We are aware that applying for pupillage is a very competitive process and that each year the number of applications we receive from strong applicants exceeds the number of pupillages we can offer. Application forms and the written assessment are blind marked, and the assessors will therefore be unaware that you have previously applied to Chambers. However, if you have been interviewed on more than one occasion but have not made our reserve list, it is unlikely that you would be interviewed a third time absent some material change in circumstances.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact our HR and Administration Manager, **Natasha White-Foy**, at:

pupillage@landmarkchambers.co.uk

Further information may be found on our website.

“Landmark really cares about their pupils, and that’s what makes their pupillage such fantastic preparation for tenancy.”

Matthew Fraser, Junior Barrister

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