

**HARCOURT PUPILLAGE POLICY**

**2025-2026**

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12. Description of Chambers
	1. Harcourt is a thriving and dynamic family law set with a rich tradition of attracting and developing the strongest emerging legal talent. We have premises in the Temple and Oxford and serve a wide geographical area: principally across London, the South East and the Midlands, but also further afield. This provides opportunities for a varied and progressive practice. We are committed to expansion and aim to recruit each of our pupils who have achieved the required standard. We are a friendly set and place considerable importance on the well-being of our pupils and their integration into Chambers. Our retention rate in the last 5 years has been second to none.
	2. Widely recognised as a leading family law set in London and the South East, Harcourt undertakes the full range of family finance, children and international family law work. We have a well-established reputation within the field of children law: encompassing public and private law arenas and international children’s cases; providing representation to parents, local authorities, extended family members, children, prospective adopters and agencies such as the Official Solicitor and the police. Our strong family finance and property team undertakes matrimonial, cohabitee and civil partnership litigation. Further areas of expertise include: trusts, wills and inheritance disputes, divorce, nullity, Court of Protection cases, forced marriage, domestic violence and harassment.
	3. Many members of Harcourt accept Public Access instructions and some undertake collaborative law cases, mediation and family arbitration. We are often instructed in cases which are reported in the law reports and by the media and regularly give lectures and chair seminars. Members of Harcourt have written textbooks on pensions, contact, relocation, and adoption and contribute to leading publications, such as Butterworths Family Law Service and Jordans Family Law. Members of Harcourt include part-time deputy High Court judges, criminal, civil and family recorders, deputy district judges and university lecturers and sit on the national committee of the FLBA. Past members of Harcourt have been appointed to the High Court and Court of Appeal.
13. The Pupillage Committee

2.1 The Pupillage Committee manages all matters relating to Pupillage, overseen by the Head of Chambers. The Committee comprises 11 members of Chambers who are appointed on an annual basis by Chambers at the Annual General Meeting. Members of the Committee who deal with pupillage recruitment have been trained in fair recruitment and selection processes through appropriate internal and/or external training.

3. Pupillages and Award

3.1 Harcourt offers up to two funded 12 month pupillages each year. Our pupils receive an award of equal amount.

3.2 The pupillage award for pupils starting pupillage in October 2025 will be £39,000, plus earnings in the second six months. The award is paid in the following way:

a) £24,000 in the first six months of pupillage, ordinarily paid as six monthly instalments of £4,000, and

b) £15,000 in the second six months ordinarily paid in one instalment of £4,000 (month 7) and then five monthly instalments of £2,200 for months 8-12 inclusive. In addition, pupils retain all earned income (save for income tax liability).

3.3.. A pupil may request to draw the award in a different arrangement, which will be considered by the pupillage committee and ManCom on an individual basis.

3.4 Although the amount of earnings can vary depending on conditions at the time, over the last three years our pupils have earned on average around £25,000 to £35,000 in their second six months.

3.5 The instalments of the award will usually be made by BACS direct into the pupil’s bank or building society account on the first day of each month.

3.6 For the avoidance of doubt, travel expenses are not reimbursed as the award has been fixed for pupillages in 2025 to 2026 at a level to reflect, and take into account, likely travel expenses based on those incurred in recent years by pupils.. Where a pupil has earnings during the second six months, any remuneration for travel costs in accordance with the Family Advocacy Scheme will be retained by the pupil.

3.7 The award will be reduced pro rata:

(a) in relation to any period during which the pupil undertakes a period of pupillage at another Authorised Education and Training Organisation; and

(b) in the event that the pupil does not complete the full 12 months pupillage for whatever reason; in that event, no further monthly payments would be made by Chambers.

3.8 Harcourt reviews its pupillage award on an annual basis.

4. Procedure for Applying for Pupillage at Harcourt

4.1 Applications to Harcourt for 12 month funded pupillages are made through the Bar Council’s Pupillage Gateway in accordance with the timetable prescribed for the Gateway and applications made outside this scheme will not be considered.

4.2 Vacancies for pupillage at Harcourt are advertised on the Pupillage Gateway. Applicants are required to have a minimum of a 2:1 at first degree level, but candidates who fall short of this will be considered where there are genuine extenuating circumstances and evidence of other outstanding attributes in their applications. We welcome applications from students from all backgrounds and we do not have a preference for applicants who have a degree in law. Nor do we require applicants to have undertaken a mini-pupillage at Harcourt. Applicants will be asked to explain why they want to practice at the Family Bar and undertake a pupillage at Harcourt, in particular.

4.2.3 Harcourt elects to receive all applications on an anonymised basis when shortlisting candidates to invite to first-round interview.

5. Selection Criteria

5.1 At Harcourt we are looking for candidates who can demonstrate good advocacy and communication skills, analytical thinking and inter-personal skills required to develop an independent practice at the bar. Examples of significant achievements, or demonstrations of resilience, whether law related or not may evidence wider skills. Candidates should be able to evidence a commitment to a career in family law.

5.2 We are committed to equal opportunities and diversity in all its forms and strive to ensure accessibility. This commitment is enshrined in our Equality and Diversity Policy which can be accessed via Chambers’ website, or a copy can be provided on request.

5.3 Members of the Pupillage Committee, who are responsible for assessing and scoring applications, will be trained in fair recruitment and selection processes. These members will hold a meeting within seven days of Chambers downloading the applications from the Gateway, in order to discuss and agree the selection criteria to be applied, the marks to be awarded to each criterion and how they will be applied in order to ensure a fair, objective and consistent approach. The applications will then be divided between those members who will score them applying the selection criteria. The highest scoring applications will be put on a short-list for a first-round interview.

5.4 The short-list for interview is prepared primarily in accordance with the following criteria:

- educational achievement

- relevant experience of the profession, particularly in Family Law (eg. mini pupillages/marshalling/unpaid legal work experience)

- relevant communication skills (eg. evidence of mooting, debating, public speaking, drama, teaching, LAMDA etc etc.)

- other relevant law/jurisprudence experience/skills (eg. scholarships, paralegal work, legal voluntary work)

- success/ experiences and life skills in other areas (eg. non-legal employment and/or non-legal voluntary work) demonstrating a motivation and determination to succeed

- other outstanding qualities/factors (eg. demonstrable commitment to Harcourt, relevant post-graduate qualification, further exceptional work experience or employment (whether law-related or not)

- exceptional written advocacy on the application form)

5.5 The applications of all candidates who have scored just above and just below the cut-off for a first round interview are moderated by two senior members of the Pupillage Committee, as are a number of other applications selected randomly. This is to ensure that a consistent marking approach is being taken.

5.6 Once the shortlist has been prepared, short-listed candidates will be invited to a first round interview and applicants who have not been successful will be notified via the Pupillage Gateway.

5.7 All applicants who are invited to an interview may be requested to provide to the Committee such evidence as the Committee considers reasonably necessary to demonstrate that they meet the mandatory requirements for pupillage at Harcourt. In the event that an applicant is unable to provide such evidence, the Committee shall consider whether it is necessary to report that applicant to the BSB and/or the applicant’s Inn of Court and, if so, shall make such a report.

5.8 We strive to ensure that all first round interviews are conducted by the same panel, which shall comprise at least three members of the Pupillage Committee. If the Pupillage Committee appoints an additional member of Chambers to sit on the interview panel, that member will nevertheless have been trained, in fair recruitment and selection processes.

5.9 Members on the interview panel for first and second interviews will meet discuss and agree the selection criteria to be applied, the marks to be awarded to each criterion and how they will be applied, before each interview round, in order to ensure a fair, objective and consistent approach. They will apply the selection criteria and mark the candidates accordingly during the interviews.

5.10 We are ordinarily unable to offer alternative interview dates, however, at all stages of the selection process, consideration will be given to genuine extenuating circumstances (eg. serious illness/injury, bereavement, caring for a seriously unwell family member). We will also make reasonable adjustments for any applicant who requires them by virtue of a disability.

5.11 When invited to first and second interviews, applicants will be given a brief explanation of the format which the interview is expected to take. The first round will ordinarily take place remotely and the second round in person.

5.12 Approximately 20 minutes before the first interview starts the applicant will be provided with a written scenario about which questions will be asked during the interview. Other topics will also be discussed in the interview. Questions will not be designed to test the applicant’s existing legal knowledge as we appreciate that some applicants may have had more experience of Family Law than others. The scenario and other interview questions are designed to provide the applicant with an opportunity to demonstrate:

- their analytical thinking (eg. the ability to absorb and process detailed and complex information accurately and quickly, extract relevant information to formulate an argument, and adapt/develop an argument in response to questions or the emergence of further information)

- advocacy skills (the ability to present a strong/logical case regardless of one’s own perspective; confidence and impact of delivery; structure and focus of communication)

- interpersonal skills (including communication skills, the ability to connect with the audience and demonstrate emotional warmth; determination, and the ability to respond to challenges)

 - their commitment to and interest in a career at the Family Bar and at Harcourt, in particular. This is a relevant criteria as it is our hope and expectation that every candidate we select as a pupil will want to become a tenant at Harcourt upon successful completion of their pupillage.

5.13 Following the first interview, the panel members will mark each applicant in accordance with these selection criteria and select the candidates who are to proceed to second interview. A member of the interview panel will contact candidates to invite them to a second round interview. Unsuccessful candidates will be notified via the Pupillage Gateway system.

5.14 Approximately 30 minutes before the second interview starts the applicant will be given a written advocacy exercise which will form the basis of part of the interview. As with the first interview, it will not be designed to test the applicant’s existing legal knowledge. This advocacy exercise and the questions during the interview are designed to provide the applicant with an opportunity to demonstrate:

- their analytical thinking (the ability to absorb and process detailed and complex information accurately and quickly, and relate relevant facts to the key aspects of the law, which will be provided/explained)

- advocacy skills (the ability to present a logical, rational argument based on fact and an understanding of the relevant law; the ability to anticipate objections and have arguments in place to deal with them; confidence and impact of delivery)

- interpersonal skills (the potential to build effective working relationships with clients including understanding the need for empathy while maintaining professional objectivity; skills in handling conflict; to demonstrate drive/motivation across a broad range of skills and experiences)

- effective communication skills (the ability to connect with the audience and demonstrate emotional warmth and communicate clearly with structure to aid the audience’s understanding).

5.15 Following the second round of interviews, the Pupillage Committee and selected members of Chambers will, after full discussion and consideration of the second-round interview scores, select up to two successful candidates for Pupillage. .

5.16 After each round of interviews, scores will be recorded independently by each member of the interviewing panel in an agreed format. The Committee (or a nominated member of it) will use reasonable endeavours to provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants who request in writing feedback within 14 days of being notified that their application has been unsuccessful. The feedback will be provided to them within 28 days from the date when the Pupillage Committee receives their written request. We regret that we are unable to provide feedback to candidates who are unsuccessful in securing an interview.

6. Structure and Supervision of Pupillage

* 1. Harcourt acknowledges that there is a significant length of time between pupillage offers being made through the Pupillage Gateway system and pupillage commencing. In order to maintain communication and support with pupils during this time, Harcourt will undertake the following:
1. Allocate the pupils a “buddy” (see paragraph 9.3);
2. Arrange for the pupils to attend chambers for an informal tour and drinks, to meet the clerks and start introducing them to members of chambers;
3. Ensure that the pupils are aware that they can attend chambers for a 1-2 day mini-pupillage should this be of assistance to the pupil prior to starting their pupillage;
4. Fund student membership of the FLBA and Family Law Week.
5. Invite the pupils to suitable webinars/seminars/marketing events, with it being made clear to the pupil that there is no obligation on them to attend such events prior to starting their pupillage;
6. Ensure that the Written Agreement, Training Programme and associated documents (see paragraph 6.2) are provided to the pupil no later than one month before the commencement of their pupillage;
7. Ensure that they have their induction meeting with their first supervisor no later than 3 days prior to commencing their pupillage.
	1. Should it be agreed that the pupil be offered a 1-2 day mini-pupillage as part of their induction process as set out above and the mini-pupillage will involve the pupil attending remote hearings, arrangements may be made for the pupil to attend any remote hearing from Chambers’ premises.
	2. Before starting pupillage, pupils shall sign a Written Agreement, which has the Training Programme attached to it and sets out lots of information about pupillage at Harcourt (and the duties of pupil supervisors). At Harcourt, pupillages are arranged and supervised in a manner which is fair and equitable, including the fair distribution of training opportunities to each pupil. Pupils shall be exposed to the full range of family work that Harcourt undertakes and pupils can expect to attend Court hearings very regularly with their pupil supervisors (either remotely or in person). They undertake written exercises, drafting and legal research. In general, if a pupil supervisor is working in Chambers, their pupil should expect to work in Chambers and to attend all court appearances and conferences with them during the normal working week, unless specific assignments require their attendance elsewhere and this is agreed in advance with their supervisor. Harcourt recognises, however, the principle of flexibility which is set out in the Authorisation Framework. Pupil supervisors shall have regard to this principle and a pupil’s personal circumstances or any caring commitments when considering any request from their pupil to adopt a different pattern of working.
	3. The pupillage is divided between three successive pupil supervisors in four month periods, providing an opportunity to see different work and practice styles whilst ensuring that a pupil is strongly supported and has continuity of the same pupil supervisor during the transition to ‘second six’. Consideration will be given to the pupil’s interests and circumstances when they are being allocated a pupil supervisor. A minimum of two of the pupil supervisors will have previous experience of supervising pupils and all will have been appropriately trained.
	4. Sometimes it is necessary to vary the supervision arrangements during the pupillage, including to take account of a supervisor’s changing commitments or the type of training they are able to offer to pupils during the year. If that happens, the pupil’s circumstances will be taken into account in the allocation of their pupil supervisor and the pupil will be assisted by Chambers to notify the BSB promptly about the change in supervision arrangements.
	5. Chambers’ core business hours are 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday (inclusive). There are no fixed training hours, but to get the most out of pupillage at Harcourt, pupils will be expected to spend at least eight hours a day undertaking education and training. The majority of this time will be during Chambers’ core business hours, save for periods when pupils are unable to work due to illness, or injury, or are on holiday. Pupils may on occasion be invited to attend evening or weekend events relevant to their education and training at the pupils’ option. Expectations about minimum and additional attendance are provided in our Training Programme which we provide to pupils before they start pupillage.
	6. At Harcourt pupils pay their own travel expenses, but Chambers funds their attendance on compulsory courses required by the BSB; the details of which are provided in the Training Programme. Currently, pupils must attend the advocacy course (which must be completed prior to the start of the practising period of pupillage), the negotiations course and pass the professional ethics examination. The BSB has proposed that the cost of the professional ethics examination and any first resit will be met from the barristers’ practising certificate fees and not by the pupil or their Chambers.
	7. Harcourt recognises the challenges and changes that the pandemic caused to the working and learning environment. Should any part of the pupillage include elements of remote supervision, the pupil supervisor will ensure that their pupil’s training is supported through regular video discussions on Teams, regular telephone calls and emails and (if possible) to attend remote hearings with the pupil supervisor from chambers. Any other measures that can be taken to ensure that the pupil’s training is accessible will be considered by the pupil supervisor, in consultation with the Head of the Pupillage Committee.
	8. Additional training courses will be considered by Chambers if and when they arise. In-house training sessions are provided to pupils from time to time by members of Chambers. Pupils are invited to attend external training provided to members of Chambers and are encouraged to attend Harcourt events, such as seminars, presentations, and social events, with members of Chambers. Pupils are also encouraged to attend relevant seminars organised by specialist organisations such as the Family Law Bar Association.
	9. Pupillage is divided into a six-month non-practising period and a six-month practising period. During their second six months, pupils are covered by the insurance of their pupil supervisors for any legal services supplied to the public. Work will be distributed in a fair and equitable way and Chambers’ policy on work distribution is set out in the pupils’ Training Programme.
	10. Pupil supervisors will monitor their pupil’s diary and discuss a pupil’s diary with their pupil to ensure that pupils feel that they have adequate time to prepare for their cases and that they are competent to take on a case, by reference to their skill level and their professional duties. Pupil supervisors will be able to provide advice to pupils on record-keeping, time-management and managing workload, diarising and managing absences/time-off.
	11. During pupillage at Harcourt, pupils spend time with other members of Chambers to experience a variety of work, such as attending conferences, negotiations/mediations and Court, including Court of Appeal and Supreme Court cases. This increases the pupils’ proficiency in a range of areas of Family Law at different levels, provides an opportunity for other members of Harcourt at all levels of seniority to provide constructive advice and feedback, consider ethical challenges as they may arise and enables pupils to observe different approaches and styles of advocacy. It also ensures that they integrate into Chambers and are introduced to our professional clients. Towards the end of their first six months non-practising period, pupil supervisors arrange for their pupils to accompany junior tenants so that the pupils can experience the type of work they will undertake in their second six month practicing period. Observing cases in person enables pupils to interact directly with lay and professional clients and litigants in person from diverse backgrounds and to develop an understanding of how to respond to clients’ individual needs and sensitivities, as well as being mindful of the additional responsibilities when communicating with litigants in person.
	12. In addition, pupils will be able to participate in any training sessions, such as those that are organised by Chambers for local authorities to assist social workers in understanding public law proceedings as well as experience cross-examination. This will provide pupils with an opportunity to practice their cross-examination skills with real professional witnesses.

7. Assessment

* 1. The BSB requires that pupils are assessed during pupillage against the competencies in the BSB’s Professional Statement. Each piece of work completed by a pupil is appraised by their pupil supervisor, or by the member of Chambers for whom the work was completed. Pupils may be asked to prepare any, if not all, of the following pieces of work:

a) Position Statements/Case Summaries;

b) Skeleton Arguments;

c) Orders;

d) Chronologies;

e) Research Notes;

f) Opinions.

* 1. When a pupil’s work is being assessed, the matters for consideration will include accuracy, in terms of the law and its application and in terms of the facts of the case, analytical ability, style, presentation and the general appropriateness of the work in relation to the instructions given.
	2. After receiving feedback from their pupil supervisor or member of Chambers, a pupil may be asked (or may request) to prepare the same piece of work again so as provide them with an opportunity to reflect on piece of work.
	3. Where the work involves advocacy, or negotiations outside of court, and the Instructing Solicitor concerned or the opponent or any other source qualified to comment chooses to make a comment either to the pupil supervisor or to any other member of Chambers or member of staff in Chambers, those comments will be recorded and passed on to the pupil’s supervisor (who will provide feedback to the pupil as appropriate) and to the Pupillage Committee.
	4. Throughout pupillage, pupil supervisors will regularly provide feedback to their pupils. At the end of their “term” of pupillage with a particular pupil supervisor, the pupil will be expected to attend a formal Progress Meeting to consider the pupil’s progress. This will take place no later than 7 days before the end of each “term”. During the meeting, the pupil supervisor and the pupil will complete the “Progress Report”, which is attached to this policy **(Appendix 1**). At least one other member of the Pupillage Committee may attend the Progress Meeting if the pupil or pupil supervisor so wish. The pupil in question will be offered a full opportunity to contribute during the course of this meeting and to the completion of the Progress Report. This document will be copied and passed to the pupil’s next supervisor, as well provided to the Head of Pupillage and filed by the Pupillage Committee (on a confidential basis). The respective pupil supervisors will discuss areas of strength and weakness and how best to further the pupil’s training.
	5. The Progress Reports will inform:
1. an assessment which will be undertaken of pupils in the last month of their non-practising period (their “first six”) to determine whether they are achieving to a satisfactory standard the required competencies in the BSB’s Professional Statement (Authorisation Framework).
2. a final assessment to determine whether the pupil has achieved the competencies in the BSB’s Professional Statement will be conducted in the last month of the pupil’s practising period of pupillage (their “second six”) before the pupil can be certified for the purpose of obtaining a full practising certificate.
3. The Tenancy Committee’s decision-making process about each pupil.
	1. The assessments in 7.4 (a) and (b) above will be based on Chambers’ Appraisal and Feedback Form, which is attached to this Policy (**Appendix 2**). This form is completed by the pupil supervisor towards the end of the first and second six months, in order that Chambers can certify that the pupil has achieved the required Professional Competencies to a satisfactory standard, so that they can obtain practising certificates.  Pupils will be expected to keep a diary throughout pupillage, so that they can evidence the information on the Appraisal and Feedback Form can be evidenced.
	2. Should a pupil’s progress or conduct be considered in any formal chambers meeting, any observations will be recorded in the Minutes of the Meeting, and will in general terms be communicated to the pupil in question after the meeting. However, pupils’ progress or conduct are not as a matter of routine considered in such chambers’ meetings.
	3. At the end of pupillage, subject to satisfactory completion of a final assessment against the competencies in the BSB’s Professional Statement, the pupil supervisor will give the required notification to the BSB. In the event that a pupil does not pass an assessment against the competencies of the BSB’s Professional Statement at the end of the non-practising period*,* Chambers is likely to exercise its right to terminate the pupillage if the training provided to the pupil provided the pupil with the opportunity to meet the competencies in the Professional Statement to the threshold standard. If, however, Chambers considers that the pupil’s failure to demonstrate the required competencies is due to genuine extenuating circumstances, the pupillage can be extended or deferred to enable the pupil to demonstrate competence. Where pupillage is extended, the pupil supervisor will set clear and measurable objectives as to what is expected of the pupil during the extended period. Chambers and the pupil must notify the BSB of the new pupillage completion date by submitting the relevant form.
	4. At the end of a pupillage, Chambers will provide a pupil on request copies of their Progress reports and Appraisal and Feedback Forms recording the extent to which the pupil demonstrated the achievement of the competencies set out in the BSB’s Professional Statement during their period of training in Chambers.

8. The Conduct of Pupils

* 1. Pupils are expected to comply with Chambers’ policies and procedures in so far as they are applicable to the pupils.
	2. As pupils will be dealing with and observing confidential and usually privileged matters with their pupil supervisors (and other members of Harcourt), they are not to discuss such matters with anyone other than their pupil supervisor (or the relevant member of Chambers). Pupils shall at the commencement of pupillage sign a confidentiality agreement and data protection agreement relating to the use of information and communication systems. Pupil supervisors are to explain the importance of complying with best practice for data management and protection. Members of Chambers regularly attend briefing sessions with Chambers’ external IT security consultants and pupils are invited to attend.
	3. Prior to the start of pupillage, Chambers is required by the BSB to undertake due diligence by obtaining documentary evidence from each pupil of the satisfactory achievement of the academic and vocational stages of their training and certain other matters. Chambers will write to each pupil requesting clear documentary evidence of the following information:
1. the official certificates/transcripts of the university examinations referred to in the pupil’s application form;
2. the official certificate/transcripts of any examination taken or notified between the acceptance of pupillage and its commencement;
3. documentary evidence:
4. of their satisfactory completion of the vocational component of Bar Training;
5. that they are a member of an Inn; and
6. that their nationality or immigration status allows them to undertake pupillage.
	1. Pupillage is conditional on the pupil providing this information before the commencement of pupillage in order to satisfy the Pupillage Committee of their credentials. In the event that the documentation has not been provided by the required date and the pupil is unable to provide it, the offer of pupillage will be automatically withdrawn and the Pupillage Committee will consider whether it is necessary to report the candidate to the BSB and/or their Inn of Court.
	2. Pupils shall:
7. keep adequate training records throughout pupillage; in particular to assist their pupil supervisor with the final assessment against the competences in the BSB’s Professional Statement.
8. be fully familiar with and comply in full with their professional and regulatory obligations, including those set out in the BSB Handbook and the necessary requirements to register pupillage with the BSB, register changes of pupil supervisor with the BSB and the steps needed to apply for provisional and full practising certificates.
9. ensure that they have registered their pupillage with the BSB prior to the commencement of pupillage.
10. ensure that at all material times throughout their pupillage they have been granted and have maintained any necessary waivers by the BSB.
11. ensure that any material changes to pupillage are notified to the BSB promptly (material changes include changes of pupil supervisor who will sign forms necessary for the pupil to obtain their provisional and full practising certificates, and changes in the date of commencement or date of expected completion of pupillage);
12. not provide legal services as a barrister during the non-practising period of pupillage. The exception is doing a noting brief (taking notes during a trial) which pupils are permitted to do with the permission of their pupil supervisor or the Head of Chambers;
13. ensure that prior to starting the practising period of pupillage, they have:
14. registered with the Information Commissioner’s Office;
15. been called to the Bar; and
16. obtained a provisional practising certificate from the BSB.
17. Undertake the Professional Ethics assessment during their pupillage and other course or assessment as may be mandated by the BSB.
18. undertake to immediately notify Chambers if at any time they cease to be eligible to undertake the pupillage.
19. take the necessary steps at the conclusion of pupillage to apply for a full practising certificate in a timely manner.

9. Support for Pupils

* 1. At Harcourt we are committed to providing a supportive environment to our pupils.
	2. Although the well-being of the pupil during pupillage is the responsibility of their pupil supervisor, it will be overseen by the Head and Vice-head of the Pupillage Committee, who will meet with each pupil every 3-4 months (or more often if the pupil wishes) to discuss any concerns the pupil might have. If the Head or Vice-head of the Pupillage Committee are acting as pupil supervisors for the pupil when such meetings take place, another senior member of the Pupillage Committee will attend the meeting in their place.
	3. Additional support is provided to pupils before and during their pupillages by junior members of Harcourt under a “buddy system”. Each pupil is allocated a buddy to support them and answer in an informal and supportive way questions they might have about pupillage in the months leading up to pupillage and beyond.

10. Absence from training and sickness

* 1. Pupils are entitled to four weeks’ absence from training during a 12-month pupillage (ie. 20 days in addition to Bank Holidays) or two weeks’ absence from training during the case of a 6-month pupillage.
	2. Pupils are expected to discuss planned periods of absence in advance with their pupil supervisors and exercise their judgement to ensure that periods of absence do not hinder their attainment of learning objectives. No more than two weeks should be taken consecutively unless this has been expressly agreed and ordinarily time off should be taken in both the practising and non-practising periods. Pupils should take their full holiday entitlement.
	3. In the event that a pupil wishes to take further periods of absence from training, they must seek permission from their pupil supervisor. In the event that the proposed period of absence from training is for more than a day, the pupil is to record their request (and the reasons for it) in writing/by email to their pupil supervisor, copying in the Head of Pupillage. The pupil supervisor will discuss the request for the period of absence with the pupil and notify them of their decision in a timely manner. In the event of bereavement of a close family member, the pupil may take a period of absence from training for one week (5 working days) without having to seek permission from their pupil supervisor.
	4. In the event that the pupil fails (or is considered by the pupil and/or the pupil supervisor to be at risk of failing) to demonstrate competence as a result of absence from training due to sickness or other extenuating circumstances, Chambers will consider whether an extension or deferral of pupillage might be appropriate to enable the pupil to complete their training. In such circumstances, the duration of any permitted extension must reflect the period necessary to enable the pupil to demonstrate they have met the threshold for the required competencies set out in the Professional Statement, rather than the period of absence. In the event that the pupil fails to demonstrate competence:
1. the Head of Pupillage and pupil supervisor will discuss with the pupil the option of extending their pupillage for a defined period, the duration of any extension, and any additional measures the pupil considers will assist them to demonstrate that they have achieved the professional competencies.
2. the Head of Pupillage will report to the Pupillage Committee and the Pupillage Committee will make a recommendation in writing to the Head of Chambers, which will be considered at a Mancom meeting.
3. the pupil will be notified by the Head of Pupillage of the decision about an extension (the duration and supervision arrangements) in a timely manner after the Mancom meeting.
4. In the event that a pupillage is extended, the Head of the Pupillage Committee will confirm in writing the length of the extension and any funding the pupil may, as a matter of discretion subject to sub-paragraph (7) below, receive during the extension and the Head of Pupillage will notify the Bar Council of the new pupillage completion date by completing the Notification of Material Change in Pupillage Form.
5. Where a pupillage is extended, the supervisor is to set clear and measurable objectives as to what is expected of the pupil during the extended period.
6. Chambers should continue to meet its obligations to fund a pupil during any period of illness, subject to the terms of the Written Agreement in relation to the Pupillage Award and that funding for extended periods of illness will be at the discretion of Chambers in consultation with the pupil.
7. In the event that a pupillage is extended or suspended, the level of funding for the pupil is at the discretion of Chambers, save that Chambers is obliged (under mandatory criterion 45.2 of the Authorisation Framework and rules C113-118 of the BSB Handbook) to ensure that the pupil receives the minimum level of pupillage funding. The minimum pupillage funding is currently set in relation to the Living Wage Foundation’s hourly rate recommendations.
8. The pupil must apply to the BSB for dispensation if they need to take a substantial break from pupillage and extending the pupillage would not be appropriate in the circumstances.

10.4 There is no specified maximum amount of time that a pupil supervisor may be absent or unavailable (eg. ill or overseas) before an alternative pupil supervisor must be appointed. However, it is the duty of the supervisor to ensure that:

(1) the Head of Pupillage is notified as soon as it becomes evident to the supervisor that their absence is likely to impact on their ability to fulfil their obligations as a pupil supervisor which are set out in the Written Agreement, and

(2) the BSB is contacted for advice when a material change occurs so that special provision can be made where necessary.

11. Grievances and Complaints

At Harcourt we are committed to providing a working environment in which all individuals including members, pupils, mini-pupils, employees, clients and the public are treated with dignity, respect and fairness. At the commencement of pupillage, pupils are a copy of Chambers’ Complaints and Grievances Policy which sets out the process for making and dealing with a complaint. Confidentiality will be maintained as far as possible and appropriate in the circumstances.Pupils are encouraged to discuss any grievances which they may have during their pupillage with their pupil-supervisors.In some cases this may not be possible or appropriate and the pupil should then approach the nominated informal adviser. If resolution of the complaint is not possible, the pupil should set out the complaint in writing to the nominated recipient of formal complaints for investigation.

12. Tenancy Recruitment

12.1All pupils at Harcourt are assumed to have made an application for tenancy at the relevant time unless they express a wish in writing to the tenancy committee not to be considered for tenancy. We endeavour to take decisions about tenancy at the earliest opportunity so as to give unsuccessful applicants time to find themselves alternative Chambers. Usually that will be by the end of July following the commencement of pupillage. If this is not possible, pupils will be given notice and an explanation as to why additional time is necessary.

* 1. Decisions regarding tenancy are taken by a vote of all members of Chambers upon the recommendation of the tenancy committee. The tenancy committee consists of at least three members of Chambers appointed each year at the annual general meeting of Chambers. The appointed committee may co-opt additional members to the committee as from time to time it considers necessary to carry out its function. If a member of the committee is also a pupil supervisor to one or more of the pupils being considered by the committee, that member will not participate in making the committee’s recommendation to Chambers.
	2. The tenancy committee will make its recommendation based on its assessment of such of the following information as is available to it:
1. Pupil supervisor reports;
2. Informal references from:
3. Judges with whom the pupil has marshalled;
4. Judges before whom the pupil has appeared as an advocate;
5. Advocates against whom the pupil has appeared in court;
6. Solicitors who have instructed the pupil;
7. The clerks;
8. Any other relevant information, for example:
9. A report produced following an interview;
10. A report produced following an assessed advocacy exercise;
11. Written work produced by the pupil during pupillage.
	1. If the committee or Chambers as a whole decides that an interview and/or assessed advocacy exercise will form a necessary part of the assessment process, the pupil and the relevant pupil supervisor will be given at least 21 days’ notice.
	2. An interview or assessed advocacy exercise will be conducted by an interview/assessment panel appointed by the tenancy committee from amongst its full or co-opted members. Before either process takes place, the panel will discuss and agree the required criteria to be achieved by the pupil and the method of rating. Ratings will be recorded independently by each member of the panel in an agreed format.
	3. After the interview and/or advocacy exercise a report will be prepared by the interviewing/assessment panel that will include the panel’s assessment of the pupil having regard to the agreed criteria, the method of rating used and the ratings in relation to the pupil. The tenancy committee will retain this document for a period of no less than twelve months from the date of its completion.
	4. Ordinarily, the tenancy committee’s recommendation will be put to an electronic vote of Chambers in which the pupil must achieve the support of at least 75% of all members to be offered tenancy. An extraordinary general meeting may be convened in accordance with the constitution of Chambers for the purpose of considering the tenancy decision, either in addition to or in place of an electronic vote.
	5. As soon as reasonably practical after it has been made, the decision of Chambers will be communicated to the pupil by the Head of Chambers or another member nominated by him.
	6. A record of the entire decision-making process will be kept by Chambers, together with all of the appraisal and assessment material for a period not exceeding twelve months from the date of the decision.
	7. In the event that a pupil is not offered tenancy, the pupil may request a summary of the reasons for the decision within twelve months of being notified of the decision. Any complaint about the decision must be made also within twelve months of notification of the decision.
	8. Chambers’ general policy in the event that a pupil is unsuccessful in obtaining a tenancy at Harcourt is:
* to allow an unsuccessful pupil to squat for up to 3 months (“the squatting period”); this period may be extended at Chambers’ discretion;
* Harcourt will waive Chambers’ fees on the pupil’s earnings during the squatting period
* to support the unsuccessful pupil during this period in their efforts to secure a place in another set, eg. Pupil supervisors, the Pupillage Committee, and Chambers’ Director would make enquiries of other Family sets.
* If there is genuine financial hardship, Chambers may provide at its discretion financial support during the squatting period. It is anticipated, however, that the unsuccessful pupil will be in receipt of earnings during the period when they are squatting in Chambers.

**APPENDIX 1**

**HARCOURT PUPILLAGE PROGRESS REPORT**

Name of Pupil:

Period of Pupillage: [ ] to [ ]

Name of Pupil Supervisor:

Pupil supervisor’s area(s) of practice:

Date when report completed by pupillage supervisor with input from pupil:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Pupil Supervisor’s feedback | Pupil’s comments |
| Overview of 4 month period |  |  |
| Pupil’s Strengths |  |  |
| Areas requiring further development/practise |  |  |
| Any professional competencies not achieved at end of 1st six months |  |  |
| Any professional competencies still to be achieved |  |  |
| Any other comments/feedback (including from other members of Chambers)\* |  |  |

\*Attach copies of any written feedback from other members of Chambers, solicitors, etc.

Signature of Pupil Supervisor:

Dated:

Signature of Pupil:

Dated:

**APPENDIX 2**

**Harcourt Pupillage Appraisal/Feedback Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Pupil** |  |
| **Name of Pupil Supervisor** |  |
| **Name and Address of Approved Training Organisation where pupillage was undertaken** |  |
| **Dates of Pupillage**  | From: To:  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Declaration by Pupil**  |
| I certify that I have completed the items set out in this Appraisal Form |
| Signed:(Pupil) | Date: |
| Print name:  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Declaration by Supervisor(s)** |
| I have completed the relevant parts of the Appraisal Form and discussed its contents with the above pupil. I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief it has been completed accurately and satisfactorily in terms of the standards and competencies as defined in the Professional Statement. |
| Signed:(Pupil Supervisor) | Date: |
| Print Name:  |

**NB:** *The pupil supervisor at the conclusion of the practising period of pupillage should complete and sign the completed checklist and send it to the Secretaries to the Pupillage Committee, together with a copy of the pupil’s Pupillage Diary for the period of supervision by that pupil supervisor.*

**P = Competency to be achieved for Provisional Practising Certificate**

**F = Competency to be achieved for Full practising certificate**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Competency:****to understand that a barrister will:** | **Has the pupil developed an understanding of this competency to an acceptable/ satisfactory standard? (Where applicable, please provide examples or evidence)** | **Comments/observations by pupil supervisor** | **Comments/observations by pupil** |
| **Barrister’s Distinctive Characteristics** |  |  |  |
| * 1. **Uphold the reputation of the Bar and observe their duty to the court in the administration of justice. P/F**
 |  |  |  |
| a)can thoroughly recall and comprehend the Core Duties and their interrelationship |  |  |  |
| b)will ensure that their conduct consistently justifies their clients’ and colleagues’ trust in them and the public’s trust in the profession by:i)applying the core duties, in particular the paramount duty to the court in the administration of justiceii) complying with regulatory requirements set down by the Bar Standards Board, including the Code of Conduct [1.16]; and iii) demonstrating a thorough comprehension of the Professional Statement for barristers |  |  |  |
| * 1. **Have a knowledge and understanding of the key concepts and principles of public and private law**

 **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)can recall and comprehend and accurately apply to factual situations the principles of law and rules of procedure and practice specified by the BSB |  |  |  |
| b) can keep up to date with significant changes to these principles and rules |  |  |  |
| **1.3 Have a knowledge and understanding of the law and procedure relevant to their area(s) of practice** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| 1. Can recall and comprehend the core law and rules of procedure and practice relevant to their area of practice and accurately apply them to matters they are dealing with
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Knows the legal texts, journals, materials, documents and research tools relevant to their area of practice
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Keeps their knowledge and skills up to date in their area(s) of practice
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Can comprehend and identify and advise clients of situations where alternative forms of dispute resolution might be appropriate
 |  |  |  |
| **1.4 Have an awareness of the wide range of organisations supporting the administration of justice** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| 1. Is aware of the wide range of organisations and their roles
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Can identify and advise clients about alternative sources of advice and funding as appropriate
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Can understand the implications of the conduct of the case and the additional responsibilities owed where the client is publicly funded (or otherwise not self-funded)
 |  |  |  |
| **1.5 Apply effective analytical and evaluative skills to their work** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| 1. Can identify all necessary information and clarify instructions using appropriate communication skills
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Rigorously assesses facts and evaluates key issues and risks
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Exercises appropriate numeracy skills
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Competently analyses financial/statistical information and other information such as expert and medical reports (including identifying gaps and inconsistencies and the quality/reliability of the information)
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Can use reliable sources of information to make effective judgments
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Employs effective research skills
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Identifies relevant legal principles and applies them accurately to factual issues to devise the most appropriate solution taking into account the client’s circumstances, needs, objectives, priorities and any constraints
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Reaches reasoned decision supported by relevant evidence
 |  |  |  |
| 1. Can explain and justify their analysis
 |  |  |  |
| **1.6 provide clear, concise and accurate advice in writing and orally and** **take responsibility for it.**  **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)Takes into account the client’s objectives and circumstances when giving advice |  |  |  |
| b)ensures that advice is informed by appropriate analysis, synthesis, and evaluation and where appropriate identifies and evaluates the consequences of different options |  |  |  |
| c) Addresses and presents all relevant legal and factual issues when communicating advice |  |  |  |
| d)exercises good communication skills [1.9] |  |  |  |
| **1.7 Negotiate effectively.** **F** |  |  |  |
| a)identifies parties’ interests, objectives and limits |  |  |  |
| b)develops and formulates best options for meeting the client’s objectives |  |  |  |
| c)cogently presents options for resolution |  |  |  |
| d)recognises, evaluates and responds to options presented by the other side |  |  |  |
| e)develops appropriate compromises consistent with the client’s instructions |  |  |  |
| f)brings the negotiation to an appropriate conclusion |  |  |  |
| **1.8 Exercise good English** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| **1.9 Exercise good** **communication skills.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| **1.10 Make sound judgements in their work** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)applies effective analytical and evaluative skills to their work |  |  |  |
| b)acts independently so judgements are not influenced by external pressures |  |  |  |
| c)takes responsibility for their decisions |  |  |  |
| **1.11 Ensure they are fully prepared in order to act in the client’s best interests and provide a competent standard of work/service** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| **1.12 Employ effective research skills** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)accurately identified legal and non-legal issues and recognises when legal and non-legal research is required |  |  |  |
| b) uses appropriate methods and resources and ensures legal sources are up to date |  |  |  |
| c)assess the quality and relevance of all sources |  |  |  |
| d)Interprets and evaluates the results of research |  |  |  |
| e)applies effective analytical and evaluative skills to their work (applying research to issues to draw conclusions) [1.5] |  |  |  |
| f)evaluates and presents the results clearly and accurately |  |  |  |
| **1.13Draft court and other legal documents clearly, concisely, and accurately and write them in such a way as to reflect fairly the arguments advanced by both sides**  **F** |  |  |  |
| a)drafts accurate and legally effective documents |  |  |  |
| b)uses precedents where appropriate but can draft without them |  |  |  |
| c)addresses all relevant legal and factual issues |  |  |  |
| d)complies with appropriate formalities |  |  |  |
| e)exercise good English language skills [1.8] |  |  |  |
| f)exercises good communication skills [1.9] |  |  |  |
| **1.14 Draft skeleton arguments which present the relevant facts, law and arguments in a clear, concise and well-structured manner in accordance with relevant Rules and Practice Directions.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| **1.15 Have persuasive oral advocacy skills** **P** |  |  |  |
| a)applies the law and procedure relevant to advocacy |  |  |  |
| b)applies effective analytical and evaluative skills to their work |  |  |  |
| c)identifies strengths and weaknesses from different parties’ perspectives |  |  |  |
| d)prepares how to communicate the argument effectively, including managing facts to support the argument |  |  |  |
| e)present a reasoned argument clearly, logically, succinctly and persuasively |  |  |  |
| f)uses and cites legal authorities appropriately |  |  |  |
| g) complies with relevant formalities |  |  |  |
| h)recognises the role of different types of witnesses and uses appropriate techniques for witness handling, having particular regard for vulnerable witnesses |  |  |  |
| i)listens and responds effectively to questions and opposing arguments |  |  |  |
| j)deploys advocacy skills efficiently and effectively, in compliance with Core Duties, so far as possible, notwithstanding being required to act on short notice or under other legitimate pressure |  |  |  |
| **1.16 Comply with the regulatory requirements set down by the Bar Standards Board, including the Code of Conduct** **P** |  |  |  |
| a)identifies the most recent Code of Conduct and other applicable rules and regulations relevant to their practice and any matters they are dealing with |  |  |  |
| b)recognises potential ethical situations and identifies ethical issues |  |  |  |
| c)is aware of and makes effective use of relevant guidance, advice and support regarding ethical issues |  |  |  |
| d)behaves ethically and consistently acts in accordance with the Code of Conduct and other applicable rules/Regs  |  |  |  |
| **1.17 Know how to conduct themselves appropriately in court – using required dress, accepted forms of address, observing formalities of proceedings and following established conventions and customs in each forum.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| **1.18 Only accept work which they believe they are competent to undertake.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)makes an informed judgement on the level of knowledge, skills and attributes required in a case and recognises and operates within the limits of their competence; consulting relevant others, where appropriate |  |  |  |
| b)explain clearly the limits of their competence and knowledge to others |  |  |  |
| c)decline to act where the Code of Conduct requires them to do so |  |  |  |
| **Personal Values and Standards** |  |  |  |
| **2.1 Act with the utmost integrity and independence at all times, in the interests of justice, representing clients with courage, perseverance and fearlessness.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)identifies situations where their integrity and/or independence might be put at risk |  |  |  |
| b)Acts with integrity (identifying and avoiding personal bias, maintaining independence from external pressures, identifying and being open about potential conflict of interest, declaring them openly and being prepared to exclude themselves from acting |  |  |  |
| c)upholds the reputation of the Bar and observes their duty to the court in the administration of justice |  |  |  |
| d)complies with regulatory standards set down by BSB, including the Code of Conduct |  |  |  |
| e)takes responsibility for their actions and decisions |  |  |  |
| **2.2 Be honest in their dealings with others.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)Comply with regulatory requirements set down by BSB, including Code of Conduct [1.16] |  |  |  |
| b)be honest about limits of their knowledge, their experience, their qualifications and professional status |  |  |  |
| c)ensures that to the best of their knowledge and belief the information they give is accurate, true and not likely to mislead |  |  |  |
| **2.3 Be aware and active in the pursuit of equality and respect for diversity, not tolerating unlawful discrimination, in themselves or others.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)actively observes and upholds the law on equality, diversity and discrimination |  |  |  |
| b) is alert to the potential for unconscious bias |  |  |  |
| c)takes active steps to act fairly and inclusively and shows respect to others |  |  |  |
| d)identifies situations where there is a risk of breach of the law on equality and diversity |  |  |  |
| e)promotes diversity in the workplace and where appropriate will challenge others if their behaviour does not comply with the spirit of the law relating to equality, diversity and discrimination |  |  |  |
| **2.4 Ensure their work does not incur unnecessary fees.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)ensures, where fees are chargeable, the basis for charging fees is established with the client at the outset of any matter |  |  |  |
| b)follows these arrangements in an efficient and cost effective manner, ensuring that any necessary changes are agreed with the client |  |  |  |
| c)undertakes work that promotes the client’s best interests |  |  |  |
| d)progresses matters expeditiously  |  |  |  |
| **2.5 Adopt a reflective approach to their work, enabling them to correct errors and admit if they have made mistakes.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)recognises limitations of personal knowledge and skills and will act to resolve the situation |  |  |  |
| b)takes appropriate action when experiencing difficulties with work that is beyond their professional competence and will disclose as appropriate |  |  |  |
| c)will identify their errors of judgement, omissions and mistakes and will take appropriate action |  |  |  |
| d)will ask for and make effective use of feedback, guidance, advice and support |  |  |  |
| e)will take appropriate action to manage personal difficulties that might otherwise affect their work |  |  |  |
| 2**.6 Ensure they practice with adaptability and flexibility, by being self-aware and self-directed, recognising and acting upon the continual need to maintain and develop their knowledge and skills.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)will take responsibility for planning and undertaking personal development and learning |  |  |  |
| b)identifies strengths and areas for development and takes positive steps to address them |  |  |  |
| c)reflects on and learns from their own and others performance and achievements |  |  |  |
| d)maintains and develops relevant knowledge and skills |  |  |  |
| e)regularly takes part in activities that maintain and develop their competence and performance |  |  |  |
| **Working with others** |  |  |  |
| **3.1 understand and exercise their duty to act in the best interests of their client.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)provides a competent standard of work and service to each client [CD7] |  |  |  |
| b)identify the client’s nest interests in accordance with their lawful instructions |  |  |  |
| c)can recognise and evaluate any conflict between the client’s best interests and their duty to the court, their obligation to act with honesty and integrity and to maintain their independence |  |  |  |
| d)will ensure that subject to c) above they do not act contrary the the client’s lawful instructions |  |  |  |
| e)will act in accordance with the Code of Conduct and other applicable rules and regulations |  |  |  |
| **3.2 understand and apply principles of team working where appropriate.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)works collaboratively with others, respecting their skills and contributions |  |  |  |
| b)understands how their behaviour may affect others within and outside teams |  |  |  |
| c)reflects on own strengths and weaknesses as a team member |  |  |  |
| d)can understand the division of responsibilities within the team |  |  |  |
| e)understands the relationships between counsel, pupil, clerk and solicitor |  |  |  |
| f)delegates to and supervises others effectively |  |  |  |
| g)establishes and maintains effective professional relations with others |  |  |  |
| **3.3 respond appropriately to those from diverse backgrounds and to the needs and sensitivities created by individual circumstances.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)is aware of and active in the pursuit of equality and respect for diversity [2.3] |  |  |  |
| b)can provide information in a way that others can understand taking into account their personal circumstances and any particular vulnerability |  |  |  |
| c)recognises and responds effectively to others’ particular needs, objectives, priorities and constraints |  |  |  |
| d)recognises and will take reasonable steps to meet the particular needs of clients including those who are disabled or vulnerable |  |  |  |
| **3.4 Treat all people with respect and courtesy, regardless of their background or circumstances.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)demonstrates suitable professionals practice, politeness and respect in communications and personal interactions with other |  |  |  |
| b)recognises people’s differences and modifies their behaviour where appropriate to take account of those differences |  |  |  |
| **3.5 Where appropriate, keep clients (whether lay or professional) informed of case progress in a clear and timely manner and manage their expectations.** **P/F**  |  |  |  |
| a)identifies the level of their responsibility to consult with and to communicate case progress to a client |  |  |  |
| b)informs clients in a timely manner of key facts and issues, including key dates, risks and progress towards objectives and costs |  |  |  |
| c)identifies and evaluates possible courses of action and their consequences and assists clients in reaching a decision |  |  |  |
| d)manages client’s expectations including in relation to options, the range of possible outcomes, risks and timescales |  |  |  |
| e)responds appropriately to client’s concerns and complaints |  |  |  |
| **3.6 Demonstrate a good awareness of their additional responsibilities in cases involving direct access and litigants in person.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)adapts communications and handling of a matter to ensure public access clients are fully informed of the actions which are being taken on their behalf and the purpose and possible consequences of those actions |  |  |  |
| b)recognises and appreciates the position of litigants in person |  |  |  |
| c)understands professional duties to an opponent who is a litigant in person, the court and their own client and the effect on how the matter is handled |  |  |  |
| d)acts in accordance with the Code of Conduct and other rules and regulations applicable to public access clients or litigants in person |  |  |  |
| **Management of Practice** |  |  |  |
| **4.1 Where appropriate, possess a strong understanding of the specific implications of being a self-employed barrister (thoroughly understand the scope of relevant practice rules and demonstrate the context in which they work).** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| **4.2 possess sufficient understanding of organisational and management skills to be able to maintain an effective and efficient practice.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)is competent in all aspects of their work:(1)competent organisation, includes:(i)keeping accurate records (incl. financial and time recording) and files, electronic or hard copy(ii)efficient time allocation(iii)prioritising(iv) diarising(v) observing deadlines(vi)using resources (including IT systems) effectively(vii) being fully prepared(2)competent management includes:(i)planning(ii)putting in place human and non-human resources(iii) co-ordinating, leading or directing(iv)checking progress against plans to accomplish the goal or target and(v)financial management(3) competent risk management includes:(i)identifying, evaluating and measuring the probability and severity of risks to their practice; and(ii)proactively deciding what to do about risks and acting appropriately.b) understands the relevance of strategic planning, financial planning and business development in the context in which they work |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **4.3 Plan their personal workload and absences so as to ensure they deliver on all work commitments they have made.**  **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)clarifies instructions to agree the scope and objectives of the work |  |  |  |
| b)makes informed judgements on the time required to prepare cases |  |  |  |
| c)takes account of availability and that of other resources |  |  |  |
| d)declines to act where there is insufficient time and opportunity to prepare |  |  |  |
| e)prioritises and plans workload to meet commitments |  |  |  |
| f)meets timescales, resources requirements and budgets |  |  |  |
| g)monitors and keeps relevant others informed of progress and availability |  |  |  |
| h)deals effectively with unplanned circumstances and re-prioritises as necessary |  |  |  |
| **4.4 Understand the organisational systems or structures within** **which they work and which support their delivery of a professional service.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)contributes to the efficient operation of the workplace including:(i) sharing work when necessary(ii) creating effective support systems and(iii) working effectively within governance structures |  |  |  |
| b)understands the basis on which legal services are provided (contractual or otherwise) including, where appropriate, how to calculate and manage costs, bill clients and the operation of internal budgets for legal advice |  |  |  |
| **4.5 Maintain the confidentiality and security of information relating to third parties, including clients and former clients, adopting secure technology where appropriate and complying with relevant data protection requirements.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| **4.6 Exercise good time-keeping in face-to-face or telephone encounters, by attending all appointments punctually and as fully prepared as possible in the circumstances.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| **4.7 Where necessary, be diligent in keeping good records and files of cases.** **P/F** |  |  |  |
| a)identifies when it is their responsibility to keep records and files |  |  |  |
| b)prepares and compiles appropriate records at the same time as or as soon as possible after the events that are being recorded |  |  |  |
| c)ensures records are clear, accurate and legible and contain sufficient detail for their purpose |  |  |  |
| d)organises records so that they are retrievable by themselves and other authorised persons as appropriate |  |  |  |