

5 ESSEX  
COURT

# PUPILLAGE

## AN OVERVIEW

"A fabulous set you'll find in nearly every groundbreaking case, inquest or inquiry" **Legal 500**



# WHO WE ARE

## "5 Essex Court's barristers are at the cutting edge of everything" Chambers UK

5 Essex Court is a specialist civil chambers with expertise in human rights, public law, public inquiries and inquests, information and employment law. We are also acknowledged to be one of the leading sets practising in the field of police law.

Members of chambers – from pupils up to silks – regularly appear in the most significant and high profile cases, inquests and inquiries including:

- R (Maughan) v HM Senior Coroner for Oxfordshire [2020] UKSC 46 (standard of proof applied at inquests)
- R (Bridges) v Chief Constable of South Wales Police [2020] EWCA Civ 1058 (Admin) (use of live automatic facial recognition software)
- Jones v AG Trinidad and Tobago [2018] 4 WLUK 150 (decriminalisation of homosexuality)
- Robinson v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire [2018] UKSC 4 (duty of care)
- Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis v DSD [2018] UKSC 11 (Article 3 investigation)
- The Grenfell Tower Inquiry
- The Manchester Arena Inquiry
- London Bridge and Fishmongers' Hall inquests
- Sir Cliff Richard v BBC and South Yorkshire Police
- The Deepcut, Tunisia Shootings, Hillsborough, Mark Duggan and 7/7 Inquests
- The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse
- The Birmingham Pub Bombings Inquests
- The Undercover Policing Inquiry
- Phone Hacking Litigation
- Case concerning the Legal Consequences of the Separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965 (International Court of Justice - decolonisation)

Chambers comprises 44 members: including a Senior Coroner, a Deputy High Court Judge, 3 Recorders, a Deputy District Judge and an Assistant Coroner. A high proportion of members of chambers are on the Attorney General's Panels of Counsel across all three panels.

We look to recruit high calibre pupils who will enhance our expertise.

"An excellent set with a stellar reputation" Legal 500

# WHAT WE LOOK FOR

**Our pupils are selected from a broad range of backgrounds and experience, whether recent university graduates or those seeking a second career as a barrister.**

We look for bright, articulate, highly motivated, ambitious applicants with a genuine interest in our core areas of practice and who are committed to a successful career at the Bar.

# WHAT WE OFFER

**We offer up to two twelve-month pupillages. We are proud of our history of retaining pupils and offer pupillage only to those whom we consider have the potential to become tenants.**

The interviews are a two-step process. We invite approximately thirty applicants for a first round interview and draw-up a short list of ten applicants for a second round interview. Details of the selection criteria, interview procedure and our annual Selection Process Report are all on our website: [5essexcourt.co.uk/join-us/pupillage](https://www.5essexcourt.co.uk/join-us/pupillage).

We operate an equal opportunities selection policy for pupils and tenants. We treat all applicants fairly, irrespective of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability and age. We encourage and welcome applications from women, people of minority ethnic origin and people with disabilities, as well as candidates from other groups which are under-represented at the Bar.

5 Essex Court has a high proportion of female silks and female members of chambers and is highly ranked in the Black Solicitors Network Diversity League Table.

# FUNDING

In addition to offering a competitive annual award of £55,000 (comprising a grant and guaranteed second-six earnings), we fund the Inns' advocacy courses, the Forensic Accountancy Course and travel with a supervisor outside London.

# OUR PUPILLAGE PROGRAMME

5 Essex Court's commitment to training was recognised in the Legal Cheek awards as winners of the inaugural 'Best Chambers for Training' Award 2018. In 2020, 5 Essex Court was awarded 'Best Chambers for Colleague Support' by Legal Cheek.

During pupillage you will have three pupil supervisors and exposure to all of our core areas of practice. As your practice builds, you can expect to be in court on a regular basis as well as developing a paperwork practice. We value pro-bono work and will give you time and support to take on Free Representation Unit cases.

In addition, chambers has developed an in-house advocacy training programme designed to complement the training provided by your Inn and a Talks Programme provided by members of chambers which introduces particular areas of chambers' practice and provides more general guidance for a successful life at the Bar.

Chambers has worked hard to ensure that our pupillage programme can continue despite the coronavirus pandemic. This year we conducted all our pupillage interviews remotely by video-link. We will be hosting virtual mini-pupillages for those who want understand more about life at the Bar and at 5 Essex Court in particular. [Click here](#) to view our webinar on "Applying for pupillage in the age of coronavirus" with Legal Cheek.

**[Join us](#) - apply through the Pupillage Gateway!**

For more advice and tips on getting pupillage follow us on Twitter and Instagram:



[@pupillages](#)



[@5essexcourt\\_pupillages](#)

For even more tips and advice, tune in to the Middle Temple Pupillage Podcast hosted by two of our members: Beatrice Collier and Georgina Wolfe.

“ I have been incredibly impressed with the 5 Essex Court pupillage recruitment process. It has been by far the best that I have gone through in terms of transparency, quick response and the degree of effort given to providing candidates with feedback. If only the rest of the Bar were to follow your example!”

- Former Applicant