



**Find out what
makes us different**

Pupillage at
Devereux Chambers

WHY DEVEREUX CHAMBERS?



COMPLETING A PUPILLAGE AT DEVEREUX CHAMBERS IS TOUGH. WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION FOR THE QUALITY OF OUR WORK AND WE ONLY ACCEPT THE BEST CANDIDATES. BUT WE ALSO SEEK TO ENSURE A PUPILLAGE WITH US IS STIMULATING, EXCITING AND FUN.

We're a friendly and forward-looking set, noted for our modern, welcoming ethos, and supported by a dynamic administrative and clerking team. As a pupil, you'll undertake a rigorous, structured pupillage programme, covering commercial, personal injury and employment law, but one where you are treated as a respected and valued colleague.

You will be a full part of life at Chambers, working alongside other members at all levels of call, attending Court, liaising with clients and attending events. It will give you practical, hands-on experience of the kind of work you would be doing as a tenant. We don't select pupils for tenancy on a competitive basis. We only take on two pupils a year – so if you work hard and meet our high standards, there's a good chance you'll be offered a tenancy.

We encourage a wide range of applicants from all sorts of educational and cultural backgrounds. What we're looking for is incisive legal analysis, strong advocacy skills and academic excellence – the qualities we believe our pupils need to become future leaders of the Bar.

Andrew Burns

Head of the Pupillage Committee

WHO WE ARE

DEVEREUX CHAMBERS IS ONE OF THE UK'S TOP CIVIL SETS AND WE ARE RECOGNISED AS A LEADER IN OUR SPECIALIST FIELDS.

Our main areas of expertise are commercial law, employment law, personal injury, tax and finance, medical and other professional negligence, and insurance and reinsurance law.

We believe in a client-centred approach, and the best interests of our clients are at the forefront of everything we do. We strive to get it right first time, every time. We act with integrity and treat everyone, from our clients to our pupils, with fairness, openness and respect.

We are strongly represented in Legal 500, Legal Experts and Chambers UK in our main specialisms, including professional negligence, pensions, environment, health & safety, education, sports, tax and telecommunications. Our recent success in several Bar awards has seen us win Junior of the Year in employment, Junior of the Year in personal injury and Silk of the Year in insurance, and our cases have been listed in The Lawyer's top cases of 2010 and 2011.

“ An outstanding overall level of service ”

Legal 500



Alice Carse

Member (former pupil)
BA (Hons), Oxford University,
LLM, London School of
Economics

Q: Why did you choose Devereux?

A: I looked in the legal directories for the areas of law I was interested in, and Devereux is right there at the top. I also spoke to people I know at the Bar, and without exception they endorsed not only its reputation for legal excellence, but also its reputation as a friendly, well-balanced place to work.

Q: What were your first impressions?

A: It immediately struck me how welcoming and supportive everyone is. Junior barristers are always happy to offer advice, or discuss a point of law. You're encouraged at every step of the way, rather than being left to fend for yourself.

OUR PUPILLAGES

A PUPILLAGE WITH DEVEREUX CHAMBERS IS ONE OF THE BEST STARTS YOU CAN GET IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO PRACTICE IN COMMERCIAL LAW, EMPLOYMENT LAW, PERSONAL INJURY AND PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE.

You will spend your 12 months with three dedicated pupil supervisors, all senior members of Chambers. During your first six months, you will have two pupil supervisors for three months each. Your third pupil supervisor will take over for the crucial second six months.

Our aim is to enable you to fully experience the life of a barrister. Based in your supervisor's room, your typical responsibilities will include working on client papers, undertaking legal research, drafting advice, pleadings and skeleton arguments, as well as joining your pupil supervisor in client conferences and accompanying them to Court.

You will also have the opportunity to work with and observe other members of Chambers, both in conference and in Court. It means you benefit from feedback from a wider variety of barristers, and you gain an insight into their different practices and approaches.

“ It immediately struck me how welcoming and supportive everyone is ”

Alice Carse

YOUR SECOND SIX MONTHS

IN THE SECOND SIX MONTHS OF YOUR PUPILLAGE, DURING YOUR THIRD PUPIL PLACEMENT, YOU WILL BEGIN TO TAKE ON YOUR OWN WORKLOAD.

Assisted and supported by your pupil supervisor and other members of Chambers, you will deal with work such as interim applications, case management and preliminary hearings and low value trials in the Employment Tribunal and County Court. You won't be in Court on your own cases every day, but it could be as often as once or twice a week.

As well as working alongside members of Chambers, you will be required to complete two formal written pieces of work in each of our three main practice areas. You will also normally complete two advocacy assessments in front of ex-Devereux Judges.

If you have not already done so, you will be encouraged to join the Free Representation Unit (FRU) as soon as you start your pupillage. Working with the FRU can provide invaluable additional advocacy and case management experience.

“ Approachable,
professional and
efficient ”

Chambers UK



Jesse Crozier

Pupil
BA (Hons), Oxford University

Q: What attracted you to Devereux?

A: The most important question for me was: do members of Chambers do work that I genuinely aspire to do? In Devereux's case the answer was a resounding yes. I also soon discovered that talk of being a 'friendly' and 'forward-looking' set was not just talk.

Q: What was the interview like?

A: I was certainly put through my paces in interview, but I was always conscious that the interviewers were trying to get the best out of me.

Q: What kind of work are you involved in?

A: I've been involved in a really wide range of work so far, including employment law, tax, personal injury, and clinical and professional negligence.

LOOKING AFTER YOUR FINANCES

YOU WILL BE ENTITLED TO A PUPILLAGE AWARD OF £42,500, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

You receive £12,500 of the award in your BVC year, paid as two instalments, in January and in May. During the first six months of your pupillage, you receive £15,000 in monthly instalments of £2,500.

During the second six months of your pupillage, you receive another £15,000 as a 'guaranteed sum', paid in equal monthly instalments. The guaranteed sum will take into account any fees you earn from your own work in your second six months, which are deducted from the overall £15,000. Any fees you earn after the end of the second six months, however, do not affect your monthly instalments.

If you fail your BVC, fail to take up your pupillage or leave before it is complete, you will be liable to repay on demand the money you have already received. Other terms are set out in the Devereux Chambers pupillage contract.

“ I soon discovered that talk of being a ‘friendly’ and ‘forward-looking’ set was not just talk ”

Jesse Crozier

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

WE ARE LOOKING FOR APPLICANTS WHO CAN DEMONSTRATE INCISIVE LEGAL ANALYSIS, STRONG ADVOCACY SKILLS AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE – THE QUALITIES THAT MAKE OUR PUPILS FUTURE LEADERS OF THE BAR.

We offer two 12-month pupillages each year. Our pupils are selected on merit and we expect a high standard of academic achievement – normally at least a 2:1.

We interview about 40 candidates in the first round, usually in June, short-listing to about 10 for the second interview. If you are selected for a second interview, you will be given two legal case studies around thirty minutes beforehand, which will form the basis of your interview discussion. From the second interview, we usually recruit two pupils.

We aim to make a decision about tenancy in July each year (or if you are only doing your third six with us, at the end of your six months). Most years, we recruit one or two new tenants from our pupils and it is our policy to recruit new junior tenants from among our pupils whenever possible. As a new tenant, you benefit from a sliding scale of rent as you establish your own practice, although you can expect impressive earnings within just a few years.



Kate Balmer

Member (former pupil)
BA (Advanced),
The University of Sydney,
LLB (Hons), The College
of Law

Q: Why did you choose Devereux?

A: I was looking for a top set that did civil work of the highest quality, but which wasn't the stereotypical formal and fusty barristers' chambers; and I wanted somewhere that was friendly and approachable, where I could see myself long term.

Q: What kind of work were you involved with?

A: It was incredibly varied when I was a pupil. I went to the Court of Appeal and the High Court, I did judicial reviews and personal injury cases, but I was also involved in multi-million pound tax claims. I worked alongside consistently outstanding barristers, and learnt something new every day.

COME AND MEET US

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR A PUPILLAGE AT DEVEREUX CHAMBERS, YOU CAN GET A FEEL FOR WHO WE ARE AND THE TYPE OF WORK WE DO BEFORE YOU APPLY.

We have a small number of mini-pupillages available every year, and we hold an annual student open day.

Completing a mini-pupillage or attending an open day are not prerequisites for a getting a pupillage, and competition for both is tough. But they do give you an invaluable insight into the work and atmosphere of Chambers, so you can check that Devereux is the right Chambers for you before you apply.

If you'd like to apply for a mini-pupillage or attend a student open day, visit the pupillage recruitment page on our website for more information and to download the dual application form. Our website address is: www.devereuxchambers.co.uk

“ I'm working
alongside consistently
outstanding
barristers ”

Kate Balmer

NEXT STEPS

IF YOU'D LIKE TO APPLY FOR A PUPILLAGE WITH DEVEREUX CHAMBERS, YOU'LL NEED TO MAKE AN APPLICATION THROUGH THE OLPAS SCHEME

We can't accept direct applications unless there is an exceptional reason why you cannot apply through OLPAS.

If you are interested in a third six months' pupillage with us, we take applications during each July and August. Check our website for details. You should apply by sending your CV and covering letter to: Andrew Burns, Head of the Pupillage Committee, at the address below:

Devereux Chambers

Queen Elizabeth Building
Temple
London
EC4Y 9BS

pupillage@devchambers.co.uk

“ The work is brilliant, wide-ranging and challenging. ”

Caroline Jennings



Caroline Jennings

Pupil
BA (Hons), Leeds University

Q: What was the interview like?

A: Refreshing. They did not parrot your application form, but rather took an interest in your ability to argue both sides of the case.

Q: What's different about Devereux?

A: There is a great sense of unity within Chambers. Doors are open and people are always willing to help, both for you as an individual and for the betterment of Chambers as a whole.

Q: What else do you enjoy?

A: The work is brilliant, wide-ranging and challenging, and the people are friendly and approachable.



Members of the Pupillage Committee *(from left to right)*
Sarah Watson, Andrew Burns, Laura Bell and Ben Lynch,

Not pictured
Mohinderpal Sethi

Devereux Chambers is committed to equality and diversity and considers all applications on an equal basis. It does not discriminate on grounds of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief or age.



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