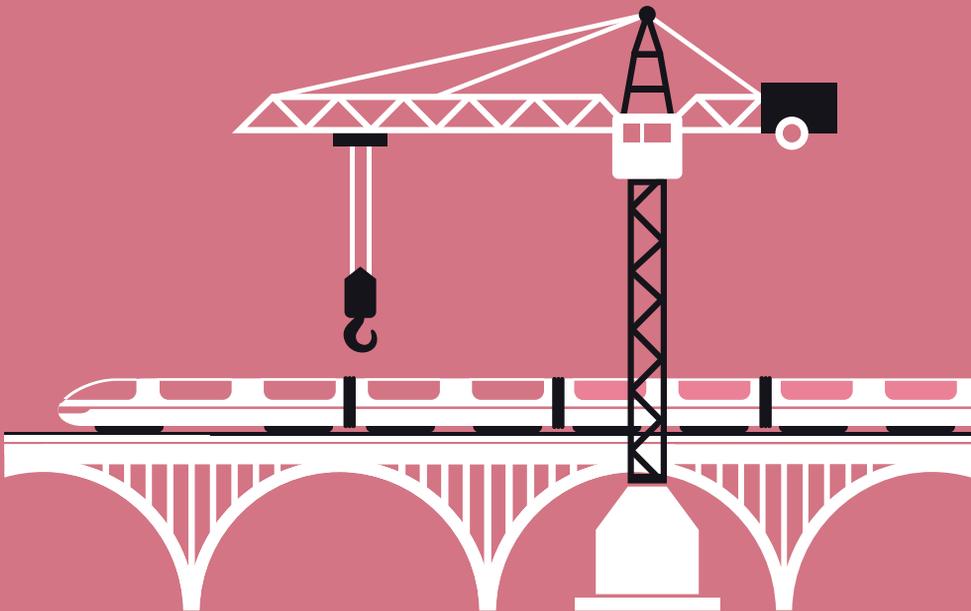


# Pupillage at **Falcon Chambers**



Falcon Chambers



**'Falcon Chambers are undoubtedly in the first rank for property litigation. Members of chambers are all of the highest calibre.'** Legal 500 2021

We advise on challenging, often abstruse points of law and appear in courts and tribunals at all levels, representing clients ranging from impecunious individuals to Government departments and the largest companies, (and pretty much everything in between), in any dispute involving land and real property. Our work takes us beyond straight property law into tort, contract, trusts, human rights and the statutory/regulatory arena. We are focussed, friendly, down to earth, hard working, and very successful.

The principal reason we retain our pre-eminence year after year is the quality of our members, which is why we devote so much effort and resources to choosing and then training our pupils. We were the first set of chambers to offer funded pupillages, and we maintain an abiding commitment to encouraging and nurturing those with high potential, regardless of background or means.

**We are a true meritocracy, and we know our continuing success depends on attracting the future stars of the Bar: this is where you come in.**

# Falcon Chambers Pupillage 2023

## We offer a competitive and comprehensive funding package:

- A pupillage award of £65,000.
- The option to drawdown up to £22,000 during the year preceding pupillage.
- In their second six months, pupils can expect to earn additional income from their own work.
- All of the compulsory training programmes run by the Inns of Court during pupillage are paid for by Chambers, alongside in-house advocacy training.
- If a pupil is required to travel for their supervisor's work, travel expenses are reimbursed.

## How to apply

Falcon Chambers receives applications through the Pupillage Gateway.

Chambers is offering up to two 12 month pupillages commencing in October 2023.

Further information will be available on our website from around late November 2021. Please see [www.falcon-chambers.com/pupillage](http://www.falcon-chambers.com/pupillage) and email Gavin Bennison, Secretary to the Recruitment Committee, at [pupillage@falcon-chambers.com](mailto:pupillage@falcon-chambers.com) if you have any queries.

## Key Dates

**Applications open:**  
Wednesday 5 January 2022

**Applications close:**  
Wednesday 9 February 2022

**First and second-round interviews:**  
dates to be confirmed, likely March/April 2022

**Offers made:**  
Friday 6 May 2022



Mr Derek Wood QC  
Mr Jonathan Gaunt QC  
Mr Kirk Reynolds QC  
Mr Guy Fetherstonhaugh QC  
Mr Jonathan Karas QC  
Mr Jonathan Small QC  
Mr Stephen Jourdan QC  
Miss Janet Bignell QC  
Ms Caroline Shea QC  
Mr Mark Sefton QC  
Miss Stephanie Tozer QC  
Mr Gary Cowen QC  
Mr Adam Rosenthal QC  
Ms Catherine Taskis QC  
Mr Oliver Radley-Gardner QC  
Mr Anthony Radevsky  
Mr Wayne Clark  
Mr Barry Denyer-Green  
Mr Paul Letman  
Mr Martin Dray  
Mr Anthony Tanney  
Miss Emily Windsor  
Mr Edward Peters

Miss Elizabeth Fitzgerald  
Mr Greville Healey  
Mr Nathaniel Duckworth  
Miss Tamsin Cox  
Mr Philip Sissons  
Mr Joseph Ollech  
Ms Camilla Chorfi  
Miss Cecily Crampin  
Mr Jamie Sutherland  
Mr Kester Lees  
Miss Ciara Fairley  
Mr Toby Boncey  
Ms Tricia Hemans  
Ms Julia Petrenko  
Mr James Tipler  
Mr Mark Galtrey  
Mr Gavin Bennison  
Ms Imogen Dodds  
Mr Thomas Rothwell  
Ms Fern Schofield  
Mr Michael Ranson  
Mr Kavish Shah  
Mr Ashpen Rajah

Falcon Chambers, Falcon Court, London EC4Y 1AA  
T: 020 7353 2484 F: 020 7353 1261

[www.falcon-chambers.com](http://www.falcon-chambers.com)

For further information please do not hesitate to  
contact the Secretary to the Recruitment Committee at  
[pupillage@falcon-chambers.com](mailto:pupillage@falcon-chambers.com)



Falcon Chambers

# Pupillage in practice

We offer up to two 12-month pupillages each year. Each pupil will be allocated to a different Pupil Supervisor every three months, in order to ensure that they are seen by as many members as possible. Each pupil will have their own desk in their Pupil Supervisor's room.

Prior to commencing your pupillage, you will be invited to attend an intensive course in landlord and tenant law in Chambers, delivered by Prof. Martin Dixon of Queens' College, Cambridge, a leader in the field.

As a pupil, you will be expected to read papers before conferences and briefs before court, to write Opinions and draft statements of case as if they were your own and to attend court with members of chambers. Your Pupil Supervisor will provide detailed feedback on each piece of work to help and encourage you to improve and to prepare for your own practice.

We do not subscribe to the long hours culture prevalent in many sets. Generally we expect pupils to arrive in chambers by 9am and to leave at about 6pm. However we do ask for flexibility and, when circumstances dictate, for pupils to be prepared to work outside these core hours.

During pupillage we provide structured advocacy training sessions, in addition to those provided by the Inns.

In your second six months, once we are satisfied that you are sufficiently experienced, our clerks will allocate work to you. There is usually a reasonable amount of work available for pupils including possession and interim hearings at court and paperwork in the form of Opinions or pleadings. Nonetheless you will continue to undertake work for your Pupil Supervisor and receive training and feedback for the entirety of your pupillage.

We place a lot of importance on being a friendly, close-integrated group of colleagues and regularly meet for lunch/other events. As a pupil in chambers, you will be welcomed to these gatherings.



Falcon Chambers



Ashpen Rajah



“The pupillage process is a difficult and challenging one wherever you do it. At Falcon Chambers, however, pupils benefit from a friendly and supportive atmosphere. Pupillage is approached not merely as an assessment of a candidate’s suitability for tenancy, but also as an opportunity to train pupils for life at the Bar. That means that even if a pupil is not taken on as a tenant, at the end of the process they will be fully equipped to practise as a barrister elsewhere.

Pupils at Falcon Chambers are expected to work hard. The work is interesting and extremely diverse. As a pupil, I was involved in all aspects of my supervisors’ work and saw how property law is often interlinked with other areas of law such as professional negligence, human rights, trusts and insolvency. It was a steep learning curve but all my supervisors were encouraging and invested a great deal of time in me. I also knew that I could knock on anyone else’s door if I had a question, and regularly made use of that.

In my second six, I received in-house advocacy training sessions and began to take on some of my own work. I was instructed to draft statements of case and applications, to appear in court at possession hearings and to act as a junior for a senior member of Chambers. Those experiences improved my confidence and helped smooth the transition from pupil to tenant.”

For further information please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary to the Recruitment Committee at [pupillage@falcon-chambers.com](mailto:pupillage@falcon-chambers.com)



Falcon Chambers

# Tenancy

Chambers aims to recruit regularly in order to maintain a structure which provides our clients with a choice of counsel of different experience and which advances the careers of individual barristers.

On average we aim to recruit one new member of Chambers each year. In some years, we may recruit more than one candidate; in others, we may decide not to recruit. We will usually only offer a pupillage where we expect to wish to recruit a new tenant at the end of the pupillage year.

We are looking for people who can demonstrate a high standard in each of the following areas:

- thinking fast and clearly, absorbing complex information rapidly, and identifying essential points and possible solutions in a practical and pragmatic manner;
- communicating clearly, concisely and persuasively, both orally and in writing;
- getting on well and, where appropriate, working effectively with, people from different backgrounds, including solicitors, clients, judges, our staff, fellow members of Chambers, and other barristers;
- being assertive when necessary, and being able to remain calm, objective and confident while working with complex material and against deadlines;
- commitment and enthusiasm;
- honesty and reliability.

We usually decide in July each year whether we wish to recruit at the end of the pupillage year. If we do decide to recruit, then generally any pupil who has demonstrated that they are of a sufficiently high standard in each of the above areas will be offered a tenancy. If we decide that we have a need to recruit, but do not have a pupil who is of a sufficiently high standard, then we will advertise the tenancy, and appraise our existing pupils against external candidates. In either case, the tenancy decision will normally be made and communicated by the end of July, and often by mid-July. Pupils will be made aware of the date on which they can expect a tenancy decision once the date has been set.

If you are taken on, our experience for many years has been that new recruits are fully employed doing their own work (as opposed to devilling) from shortly after the time they become full members of chambers.

On the other hand if you are not to be taken on, we will let you know as soon as that is clear. We have a very good record of assisting ex-pupils in obtaining third-six pupillages or tenancies at other sets swiftly, and many of our former pupils are now successful practitioners in other chambers.



**Imogen Dodds**



**“As a junior barrister at Falcon Chambers, my practice involves a wide range of property-related work, and no two days are ever the same.**

Some days (and weeks) are spent doing advisory and written work, which often involves grappling with knotty legal problems and conducting research online or in the Chambers library. However, I am also regularly instructed to represent clients at all levels of the court and tribunal systems, testing my skills as an oral and written advocate.

Whilst a lot of my work centres on classic real property and landlord and tenant law, this is far from everything we do at Falcon Chambers. Contract and tort, equity and trusts, professional negligence, company and insolvency, human rights – all these and more are part and parcel of my practice, and that of my colleagues.

As property barristers, we also deal with a diverse range of clientele. Private homeowners are at one end of the spectrum, and blue-chip investment companies at the other. Charities, public authorities, developers, schools, farmers, neighbours, trespassers, houseboat owners – everyone lives or works somewhere on, over or under land, and so may require our services.

All of this serves to ensure that life as a junior tenant at Falcon Chambers is rewarding and enjoyable - and certainly never boring!”

For further information please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary to the Recruitment Committee at [pupillage@falcon-chambers.com](mailto:pupillage@falcon-chambers.com)



**Falcon Chambers**

# Mini-pupillage

There is no requirement that you come to Chambers for a mini-pupillage before you apply for a pupillage. We do, however, encourage interested students to visit us for a few days to experience life at Falcon Chambers. We find that those who do so invariably apply to us for pupillage.

## The Programme

The aim of our mini-pupillage programme is to enable you to learn as much as possible about both Falcon Chambers and life at the Bar generally. In our experience, mini-pupils find it more congenial to attend Chambers in small groups with a focused programme, and we therefore arrange a number of sessions each year for 4 or 5 candidates at a time.

The programme consists of:

- An introductory talk.
- An individually assigned mini-pupil supervisor.
- A variety of work, including attending court, conferences and working through typical paperwork.
- Afternoon talks by members of Chambers and clerks on life at the Bar and in Chambers, the relationship between barristers and their clerks and the pupillage application process.
- A lunch in Chambers or at one of the Inns of Court giving an opportunity to meet other members of Chambers.
- An informal drinks gathering with barristers and clerks on the last day.
- Expenses £250 if you are based out of London and £50 if you are based in London.

## Applicants

We give preference to candidates who have completed their first year of university. We invite applications from both law and non-law students, although non-law students may find that they get more out of the mini-pupillage scheme after they have begun the GDL course.

## When

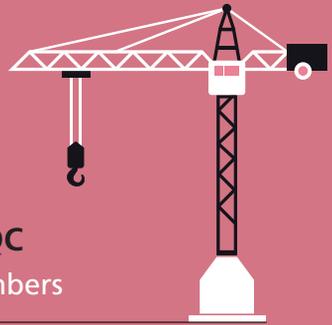
We hold 3 or 4 mini-pupillage programmes each year. Full details and the current dates are available on our website [www.falcon-chambers.co.uk](http://www.falcon-chambers.co.uk).

## How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for a mini-pupillage in Falcon Chambers, please fill in the application form which is available on our website.



**Guy Fetherstonhaugh QC**  
Joint head of Falcon Chambers



**“Like all other leading sets of chambers, we offer great breadth and depth of expertise and experience. Like most other sets, we are forward-thinking, flexible and responsive. Like few other sets, we are a genuinely friendly and fun place to spend your working life. And like no other set, all of us specialise in property law.**

And what is great – really great – about property law is that it combines the best elements of contractual analysis (brilliant for the wordsmith in you); lots of litigation (we are advocates, after all); and research into rights that in some cases go back hundreds of years (gratifying for the historians amongst you).

Because no other set at the Bar only does property work, we are privileged to be the natural choice to advise and represent all and sundry: farmers, sovereign wealth funds, dispossessed tenants, port authorities, great landed estate owners and smallholders. The work is rich and varied, and it is real: you can usually see its subject matter, whether that be an office block in the City of London, a windfarm, a canal towpath, a mansion in Belgravia, or a miner’s cottage in the Rhondda.

I cannot conceive of having a better job than being a barrister; and I cannot imagine being happier or more fulfilled in another set of Chambers. Much of that is down to the care that we have taken in the past in our selection of bright, enthusiastic students who will be likely to join in and contribute to the very special mix that we have in Falcon Chambers.”

For further information please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary to the Recruitment Committee at [pupillage@falcon-chambers.com](mailto:pupillage@falcon-chambers.com)



Falcon Chambers