

The Bar Council
Pupillage Fair 2025

PUPILLAGE AT:

2 HARE COURT

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RECOGNISED NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY AS ONE OF THE LEADING SETS IN THE UK

WHO WE ARE

2 Hare Court

Is recognised both nationally and internationally as one of the UK's leading sets, specialising in Criminal Defence, Private Prosecution, Public Prosecution, Fraud, Health & Safety, Inquests & Public Inquiries, Professional Discipline, Tax, Sports Law and other related fields.

We pride ourselves on providing high quality advice, advocacy and client service. 2 Hare Court is situated in the heart of the Temple, just a stone's throw away from the Royal Courts of Justice and a short walk from the Old Bailey. We are right at the heart of the London legal world. We have 80 members, 23 Silks and 57 Juniors, practising across all our major practice areas, many recognised by the major legal directories as leaders in their field.

Our team is made up of individuals from a wide range of backgrounds and we are committed to recruiting the most able and articulate pupils, no matter their background, to join and enhance our dynamic team.

OUR AIM IS TO ENSURE THAT ALL PUPILS MEET THE HIGHEST STANDARD

PUPILLAGE AT 2 HARE COURT

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Pupils at 2 Hare Court will have the opportunity to learn from some of the very best advocates at the Bar and will be given the opportunity not only to observe but become intimately involved in the cases their supervisors are instructed in. You will be asked for your view as to how to approach problems, what strategy you would adopt and how you would develop the arguments. The work is complex and demanding but extremely rewarding. You can expect to be challenged every day and you will quickly develop your advocacy skills, both orally and in writing. In your second six, you will have your own case load and will be in court regularly, dealing with a wide range of cases. You will have the opportunity to test and

develop your own advocacy skills and craft your own style and approach. Our aim is to ensure that all pupils meet the highest standard required to become a Member of Chambers and you will compete against only yourself to demonstrate that you have reached a standard of excellence in advocacy. Every pupil who meets that standard will be offered a tenancy in Chambers.

SPECIALISING IN BUSINESS CRIME, HOMICIDE, TERRORISM AND OTHER SERIOUS CRIME, HEALTH & SAFETY, TAX, PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE, SPORTS LAW, INQUESTS AND PUBLIC INQUIRIES

WHAT WE DO

CRIME

2 Hare Court is one of the country's leading criminal defence sets, with a distinguished history of representing individuals and companies in serious and high-profile prosecutions.

We are known for our outstanding written and oral advocacy, and for our work at every stage of the criminal justice process, from pre-charge advice to appearances before the Supreme Court. Our members practise across the UK, Northern Ireland, the Caribbean and other international jurisdictions.

We specialise in defending complex and reputation-defining cases, including murder, terrorism, serious fraud, and organised crime. Notable recent instructions include the prosecutions of Ike Ekweremadu, Imran Khan MP, and

Boris Becker, as well as the Boohoo modern slavery investigation and the News International phone hacking trials.

Members contribute to leading practitioner texts and provide training on compliance and criminal liability, ensuring pupils benefit from exposure to both cutting-edge legal work and sector-leading insight.

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WHAT WE DO CONT...

INQUESTS & PUBLIC INQUIRIES

2 Hare Court offers unrivalled expertise and experience in Inquests and Public Inquiries. Members have appeared in many of the most significant cases of recent years, including the Hillsborough Disaster, the death of Emiliano Sala, SAS training fatalities, and the disappearance of Corrie McKeague.

Our barristers have also played key roles in major Public Inquiries such as the UK Covid-19 Inquiry, Grenfell Tower, Manchester Arena, Post Office Horizon, Infected Blood, Undercover Policing, and Thirlwall. Members are instructed both as counsel to the inquiry and to represent core participants, combining exceptional advocacy with strategic, tactical insight.

Public Inquiries often involve substantial legal, financial, and reputational risks. 2 Hare Court's team draws on the full breadth of Chambers' expertise to provide outstanding advice, representation, and support throughout every stage of these complex proceedings.

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WHAT WE DO CONT...

PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE

Alongside its elite criminal practitioners, 2 Hare Court is viewed by the recently published Legal 500 UK 2026 Guide as "the go-to set for professional discipline work...you always know you are in safe hands with a 2 Hare Court barrister." and "widely considered as a market leader in this practice area."

Ranked in Band 1 by Chambers & Partners and led by 'Star Individual' Stephen Brassington, the Professional Discipline Team has firmly established 2 Hare Court as one of the UK's leading sets in this field. Over half of its members practise across healthcare, financial regulation, sport, police, and legal professional discipline.

Members act for both regulators and defendants in cases of serious misconduct before all major statutory regulatory bodies,

including the General Medical Council, General Dental Council, Nursing and Midwifery Council, General Optical Council, General Osteopathic Council, and Solicitors Regulatory Authority, as well as in registration appeals and proceedings brought by the Care Quality Commission. The team has also entered into innovative advocacy contracts with CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP for the General Osteopathic and Pharmaceutical Councils. Regularly, members represent doctors and other medical professionals at inquests, combining deep regulatory expertise with advocacy excellence.

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WHAT WE DO CONT...

BUSINESS CRIME & FINANCIAL SERVICES

2 Hare Court has a proud history in the UK's largest and most complex white-collar crime cases, including LIBOR and FX litigation, Cambridge Analytica, HBOS, ENRC/SFO, 1MDB, Barclays, Rolls Royce, Quindell, Glencore, Grenfell Tower fraud, Jess Daley/Jeffrey Epstein, Boris Becker, the Panama Papers, and accounting scandals at Tesco, Serco, G4S, and Carillion. We provide end-to-end advice, from pre-charge and restraint proceedings through trial and confiscation, and have extensive experience in cross-jurisdictional cases. Our barristers handle bribery, corruption, fraud, money laundering, insider dealing, sanctions, tax evasion, intellectual property crime, data protection, anti-competitive behaviour, and other regulatory issues.

We also advise on internal investigations, compliance, whistleblowing, deferred prosecution agreements, civil vs criminal recovery, global settlements, and undertake private prosecutions for corporate clients.

GAMING & LICENSING

2 Hare Court advises and represents individuals, corporate licence holders, and other interested parties across all areas of gaming and licensing. We appear before the Gambling Commission, local authorities, and civil courts, with recent work including gaming debts, problem gambling claims, and cross-border regulatory advice. Our team also acts in premises and alcohol licensing matters, including the successful O2 Brixton Academy case, and has expertise in firearms, gangmaster, vehicle, and security industry licensing, as well as regulatory enforcement involving nuisance, noise, and pollution.

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WHAT WE DO CONT...

HEALTH & SAFETY

We are ranked as a leading set for Health & Safety by Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. Members represent corporate clients and individuals facing proceedings from the CPS, Health and Safety Executive, and local authorities, combining skilled advocacy with sensitivity to commercial and reputational matters.

Our experience spans all sectors, including construction, transport, agriculture, energy, healthcare, retail, manufacturing, and engineering, and covers the full range of health and safety work, from corporate and gross negligence manslaughter to appeals against enforcement notices. Recent high-profile cases include Prince's Sporting Club, Lion Steel, Cavendish Masonry, Hugo Boss, Crossrail, Pret-a-Manger, and Spire Healthcare.

TAX

With a long-established background in tax litigation, the team at 2 Hare Court has a formidable reputation in direct and indirect tax disputes, covering the full spectrum of tax cases before the First-tier Tribunal (Tax Chamber), Upper Tribunal (Tax and Chancery Chamber), and Court of Appeal. Members are instructed by both taxpayers and HM Revenue & Customs, and also represent claimants and defendants in the High Court (Administrative and Chancery Divisions) in cases arising from assessments, registration decisions, and negligence claims.

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WHAT WE DO CONT...

SPORTS LAW

Members of 2 Hare Court regularly appear before sport governing bodies and adjudicative tribunals, including the Football Association, British Horseracing Authority, National Anti-Doping Panel, and the Court of Arbitration for Sport. We provide comprehensive advice and representation to individuals, clubs, corporate clients, and governing bodies.

Chambers' expertise in sports law spans all levels of seniority and, where necessary, extends to criminal proceedings at the most serious level. Our members bring the highest standards of advocacy, tactical judgment, and regulatory experience, drawing on expertise from professional discipline, crime, and regulatory law.

In football, members have advised the FA in high-profile cases including Ivan Toney, Jurgen Klopp,

Jose Mourinho, Daniel Sturridge, Joey Barton, Frank Lampard, and Mikel Arteta. In horseracing, members have represented Jim and Suzie Best and jockey Tom Morgan in BHA proceedings. Members have also appeared for the IAAF before the CAS in the Shobukhova doping case and for Harlequins RFC in the Bloodgate scandal.

A number of senior members of Chambers sit on sports adjudicatory bodies, bringing additional insight to our work. We combine legal excellence with an understanding of commercial and reputational concerns, ensuring advice and representation are tailored to each client's needs.

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WHAT WE DO CONT...

CONSUMER AND TRADING STANDARDS

2 Hare Court has extensive experience in Consumer and Trading Standards work, representing both defendants and regulators in criminal and related civil matters. We act in cases involving fraudulent trading, counterfeiting, money-laundering, illegal money lending, product safety breaches, age-restricted sales, weights and measures, and banned commercial practices. Our members have appeared for or against major companies including TK Maxx, United Airlines, Argos, Sainsbury's, B&Q, WH Smith, Poundland, and Kwik-Fit, as well as smaller businesses, directors, and individuals. We advise from the inception of investigations through to enforcement, including Proceeds of Crime Act proceedings, and provide guidance

on due diligence, primary authority partnerships, and compliance. We also advise Trading Standards services, National Trading Standards, and government departments on consumer protection law.

INTERNATIONAL, SANCTIONS & EXTRADITION

Members of 2 Hare Court act in high-profile international criminal, sanctions, and extradition cases, including corruption, fraud, and human rights matters. Recent work includes the Turks and Caicos corruption investigation, Najib Razak's Malaysian Supreme Court appeal, and Dr Agnes Taylor's trial for torture.

The team also advises the CPS, SFO, and government agencies on multi-jurisdictional prosecutions, complex UK criminal and regulatory matters, and coordinates cross-border investigations and mutual legal assistance.

THIS EXCELLENCE EXTENDS TO PROVIDING AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATION COURSE IN ADVOCACY

OUR IN-HOUSE ADVOCACY TRAINING PROGRAMME

We pride ourselves on excellence in advocacy which forms a central plank of our decision to offer either a pupillage or tenancy. This excellence extends to providing an outstanding continuing education course in advocacy, covering a range of topics and practice areas and utilising the skills of members of chambers of all levels. Pupils will undergo the advocacy training course once or twice during their pupillage. This takes place once a week and follows the pattern of theory session followed by practical session for each topic. Sessions generally take place on a Tuesday at 5.30pm but the day may be amended if a more convenient day is available. Theory sessions are given by a member of chambers and will take pupils

through the relevant law (where appropriate), the approach to take, how to structure your advocacy and key things to include or avoid. This is an opportunity for pupils to raise any questions they may have in a safe environment. This provides a unique opportunity for mistakes to be made without fear of repercussions from a Judge or client. Roles such as prosecuting or defence counsel or which witness they will play are allocated to each pupil for the practical session. Practical sessions are conducted the week after the relevant theory sessions. Each pupil has an allocated time slot to perform the exercise. Pupils are not expected to finish their advocacy in the allotted time but should prepare the exercise in full as they may be

WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON EXCELLENCE IN ADVOCACY AND OFFER EITHER PUPILAGE OR TENANCY

OUR IN-HOUSE ADVOCACY TRAINING PROGRAMME CONT...

directed to a particular part of their submission. Pupils will receive oral feedback at the session which is recorded so that progress can be monitored and feedback provided to the tenancy committee.

Practical sessions are attended by members of chambers so they have an opportunity to assess the pupils' advocacy and provide helpful feedback. This is done in such a way that each pupil will walk away from the training session with areas that they can work on, develop and polish so that they may be able to apply it in their practice at the Bar.

The topics for advocacy are as follows:

- 1) Bail Applications
- 2) Opening speech

- 3) Examination in chief
- 4) Cross Examination
- 5) Closing speech
- 6) Plea in mitigation
- 7) Regulatory advocacy
- 8) General civil advocacy. The civil advocacy topic is subject to change (as a guide last year judicial review was the topic)

If a pupil is unwell, on holiday or out of London for court, Chambers actively tries to accommodate those difficulties. Pupils who are in the theory sessions are encouraged to share their notes with those who were unable to attend should Chambers be unable to rearrange the session. Once a year the pupils will conduct a mock trial at the Old Bailey in front of members of chambers. This is typically also

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OUR IN-HOUSE ADVOCACY TRAINING PROGRAMME CONT...

conducted in front of a sitting or retired judge. 2 Hare Court boasts a number of current holders of judicial office, including Lord Justice Edis, Dame Bobbie Cheema-Grubb and Sir Julian Goose, as well as a number of serving circuit judges. The Pupils will be allocated roles as prosecution or defence counsel and informed of which witnesses they will be examining. The witnesses are members of chambers instructed to act as a normal witness would when giving their evidence. The papers are provided a week prior to the mock trial to allow for preparation time. This is a key opportunity for members of chambers to observe pupils' advocacy and is taken into consideration in the tenancy decision.

This course is second to none in terms of exposure to real world advocates who are known and revered for their deft skill in Court.

WE REGARD PUPILLAGE AS AN ESSENTIAL INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE OF CHAMBERS AND THE BAR

HOW TO APPLY

Chambers selects articulate and well motivated individuals who can demonstrate academic excellence, high standards of presentation and communication skills, sound judgement and a practical approach to problem-solving.

2 Hare Court recruits its pupils in accordance with the timetable advertised on the [Bar Council's website](#) and Pupillage Gateway. Chambers will be using the Pupillage Gateway to administer its recruitment process and, as such, applicants should apply using the link provided in 2 Hare Court's advertisement on the site, which will be available to view from the 24th November 2025 onwards. In the meantime, prospective pupils can use the

[Practice Application Form](#) on the site to gain an understanding of the format their application will take and to upload relevant information in advance of the opening of the annual submissions window.

The application timetable for pupillages commencing in September 2027 is set out below and applicants are asked to make sure they will be available on these dates as we are usually unable to accommodate individual requests for a change in timetable.

Applications for September 2027

Open – Monday 5th January 2026

Close – Thursday 22nd January 2026

Shortlisting and interviews -

Between Friday 23rd January 2026 and Thursday 30th April 2026 (dates to be confirmed)

Offers made - After 9.30am Friday 15th May 2026

Pupils have 7 days to decide

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HOW TO APPLY CONT...

Funding

Chambers advertises up to two 12 month pupillages per year. The funding for pupillages commencing from September 2027 onwards will be £30,000 award paid in monthly instalments during your first six months. £30,000 guaranteed earnings during your second six months.

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