

# 3 HARE COURT

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## Rory Turnbull's Pupillage insight

Pupillage at any set of Chambers is an exciting venture. At 3 Hare Court, it is varied, challenging, and hugely rewarding.

Sitting with at least six pupillage supervisors over the course of the year ensures that pupils gain exposure to the very wide range of work practised by members of Chambers. It made my own pupillage experience particularly stimulating. **One day I was grappling with directors' duties in the Companies Act; another day I was wrestling with the Firearms Act in The Bahamas.**

Whether it be personal injury claims following accidents abroad, commercial disputes with companies registered outside of the jurisdiction, or appeals brought to the Privy Council, much of the work has an international element.

In the course of your pupillage, you will primarily assist your supervisors with drafting research notes, skeleton arguments, pleadings, and advices. You will also be expected to work with other members of Chambers, especially KCs, which will give you an insight into the practice of more experienced practitioners, often appearing in Courts at the highest level.

During the second six months of the pupillage, the amount of work you do for others steadily decreases as the amount of your own work increases. **This is the time you put everything you have learnt into practice, including what you will have learnt during the advocacy course for pupils organised by your Inn.**

The second six is an opportunity to supplement the pupillage award with your own receipts, and to start to build up a practice of your own. This includes a paper based practice, and you will start to draft your own advices and pleadings in all manner of claims, but, above all, it is a chance to be on your feet in Court and hone your advocacy skills, especially your cross-examination skills.

At 3 Hare Court, you can expect to be in Court very frequently in the second six. I was instructed to appear in a variety of hearings, including fast-track trials (often claims arising out of a road traffic accident), possession hearings, and bankruptcy petition hearings.

**Being "on your feet" frequently means learning "on the job" and you quickly learn to expect the unexpected and handle everything that can go right (or wrong...) in a County Courtroom.**

Suffice to say, however, help is always on hand, and I have found there to be a very supportive environment at 3 Hare Court. As well as your supervisors themselves, all members of Chambers wish

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you succeed, and you'll find a real sense of collegiality here, whether when going to lunch together in Hall, or sharing "war stories" over a spontaneous drink after work.

That collegiality ensures that you will have every opportunity to thrive as a pupil. Beyond teaching you how to *do* the job, your supervisors and other members of Chambers teach you how to *be* a barrister, and you learn from them, either directly or by their example, how to succeed.

The learning process does not end at the end of pupillage - one of the pleasures of the Bar is that it continues throughout your career – but having undertaken pupillage at 3 Hare Court, you will be well equipped to build a successful career.



[Rory Turnbull](#) joined 3 Hare Court as a tenant in October 2023 following the successful completion of his pupillage. He is developing a broad commercial and civil practice, encompassing commercial litigation, international arbitration, banking and financial services, civil fraud, insolvency, property, aviation, travel and personal injury, sports and public law.

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