

# 3 HARE COURT

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## Anna Gattrell's Pupillage insight

3 Hare Court is the ideal set for aspiring barristers who are keen to undertake plenty of court work and develop a paper-based practice in a wide range of civil law areas. Pupillage here is busy, and can be challenging, but Chambers is supportive and provides opportunities for pupils which are not readily available elsewhere at the Bar.

Pupillage at 3 Hare Court is, as with most sets, split into a first-six and a second-six. You will likely have three supervisors in the first-six, and three or four in your second-six. Whilst our second-six is practising, most of my days during first-six were spent with my supervisors. Each had quite varied practices, so the work always differed. This allowed an exciting and important exposure to diverse areas of law – often with an international element.

The breadth of the work in Chambers can be exemplified by the fact that, even before Christmas, I had explored exclusion clauses, minority discounts, and the Athens Convention, as well as more procedural points on, for instance, disclosure, adjournments, and jurisdictional disputes. 3 Hare Court undertakes a lot of Privy Council work which also comes with variety: joint enterprise murder, construction law, and insurance law in the Caribbean all arose as topics during my first-six.

A typical day in the first-six might involve attending a hearing or trial with your supervisor (or even another member of Chambers if something especially interesting is going on). I was able to attend cases including a 5-day 'unfair prejudice' trial in the High Court, a trial on a travel sickness claim, and an appeal in relation to a loan agreement. Some supervisors are in court less frequently, particularly those in the commercial sphere; in those instances, you will primarily undertake research and written work. Whoever your supervisor is, however, you can probably expect to attend a number of conferences and to complete at least one skeleton argument, one piece of drafting, and an advice. The work is not designed to trip you up and is always set with your own development in mind.

Moving to the second-six months is inevitably going to be a bit daunting. In around February/March of the pupillage year, I became acutely aware that by the start of April I would be in court in my own right. When April came round the prospect was, strangely, less overwhelming, but I still walked over to Clerkenwell & Shoreditch County Court for my first case with a somewhat elevated heart rate.

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You will quickly get into the swing of things after you have started your second-six. Time-management is important as you begin to work on your own cases as well as those of your supervisors. You will become (perhaps overly) well-acquainted with the rail (and bus) networks of England & Wales. In one week alone, I had hearings/trials in London, Burnley, Gateshead, and Gloucester. At 3 Hare Court, pupils are regularly instructed in fast-track trials, which pupils at other sets don't always have the opportunity to undertake. It can initially make for a steep learning curve but serves to enhance your skills.

Throughout the entirety of pupillage, other members of Chambers may also get in touch to seek assistance on research – you will have the chance to explore cases on which silks are instructed, which tend to be fascinating (and a little more complex than the cases you can expect to take on yourself).

It is important to remember that you are not alone during the pupillage year. The supervisors are very much on your side. Each sets realistic deadlines and provided helpful feedback. In many cases, you are able to compare the work you have completed with that of your supervisor. That, too, is an opportunity: not just in terms of furthering your legal knowledge but also by way of improving your written advocacy.

Supervisors are not the only people in Chambers who are there for support. At 3 Hare Court, members actively make an effort to welcome the pupils. I was always amazed and pleasantly surprised at how many members of Chambers would take time out of their own busy days to answer my questions, or check-in to see how things were going. Our clerks and marketing team are also sure to take an interest in, and include, the pupils, whether that's through invitations to Chambers events or circulating relevant events and information by email.

For those who want to experience pupillage at a mixed civil/commercial Chambers, 3 Hare Court is the perfect place. With a supportive and collegiate atmosphere, and a variety of interesting work available, 3 Hare Court sets its pupils up for success during pupillage, and during a career at the Bar.



[Anna Gatrell](#) joined Chambers in October 2024, following successful completion of her pupillage. She accepts instructions in all of Chambers' core practice areas, with a particular focus on commercial work and travel law.

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