

NIA FROBISHER

Year of call
2016



Nia Frobisher has a mixed civil and family law practice, with specialties including clinical negligence, personal injury, inquests and children law. She is ranked as an Up and Coming barrister in Chambers & Partners 2024.

Nia is regularly instructed as an advocate in the High Court, County Court, Coroner's Court and Family Court across England and Wales. Her regular court appearances for both Claimants/Applicants and Defendants/Respondents in a wide range of disciplines has made her an analytical and confident advocate. Previously Nia's practice included the breadth of chambers work, including crime and employment. This multidisciplinary experience makes Nia an adaptable advocate who often brings a unique perspective to a case. In addition to enjoying a busy court practice, Nia frequently advises in conference and in writing and is well versed in drafting pleadings. Nia combines her analytical and confident advocacy with a compassionate, personable, and sensitive approach to clients and strives to ensure all clients are fully supported to enable them to better partake in the legal process.

Nia joined chambers in October 2018 after successful completion of pupillage. Prior to commencing pupillage, Nia was employed as a paralegal at Stewarts LLP supporting a senior partner in the personal injury department. She studied Law at King's College London and was called to the Bar in 2016 as a Major Scholar of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn. She was graded 'Outstanding' on completion of her BPTC. Nia has previously volunteered for Action Against Medical Accidents and SNAP Cymru.

Nia has completed Vulnerable Witness Training. She is committed to working to ensure all persons are able to partake in the legal process whatever their individual vulnerabilities, needs or circumstances may be. She is, through her previous volunteering in addition to her practice, accustomed and welcomes working with those with additional learning needs and is always happy to work in conjunction with intermediaries where appropriate.

Originally from Wales, Nia is a fluent Welsh speaker.

LEGAL EXPERTISE

Clinical Negligence

Nia has gained experience in a broad range of clinical negligence work. She is regularly instructed in multi-track matters, attending conferences, interim hearings, CCMCs, trials and JSMs. Nia has a busy advisory and paperwork practice, advising on all aspects of liability, evidence and quantum and is meticulous in her approach to drafting pleadings. She predominantly acts for Claimants, but also represents NHS Trusts/Health Boards and individual practitioners.

Recent matters that Nia has been instructed in have involved:

- Bladder injury following caesarean section.
- Facial burns following phototherapy UV treatment.
- Delayed diagnosis cases including delayed diagnosis of breast cancer, arterial disease, pulmonary fibrosis, and numerous orthopaedic injuries.
- Negligent dental treatment.
- Extensive pressure ulcers following failures in pressure ulcer prevention procedures.
- Negligently performed cosmetic surgery.
- Spinal injury following attempted suicide in the context of alleged inadequate mental health care.
- Claims under the Fatal Accident Act 1976 and Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1934.

Nia is also instructed as junior counsel and has been instructed in this regard in a number of high value and complex clinical negligence matters.

Prior to commencing pupillage, Nia was employed as a paralegal at Stewarts LLP supporting a senior partner in the personal injury department. Working closely with her team, she engaged in complex high value cases with both personal injury and clinical negligence elements. Her work had a particular focus on clients with complex spinal injury.

Nia has previously volunteered for Action Against Medical Accidents and SNAP Cymru. Particularly, through her work with SNAP Cymru, Nia has developed a detailed understanding of working with children and young people with additional learning needs and disabilities.

Personal Injury

Nia has developed experience in a broad range of personal injury work. She is regularly instructed in both multi-track and fast-track matters, attending conferences, interim hearings, case management conferences, trials and JSMs. She has experience in a range of Highways Act claims, road traffic collision claims, employers and occupiers' liability claims, and product liability matters. She is also instructed in claims arising out of fatal accidents. In addition to significant time spent in court, Nia has a busy paperwork and advisory practice, advising on all aspects of liability, evidence and quantum, and drafting pleadings.

Nia is experienced in handling claims where fundamental dishonesty is alleged, having acted both for clients who have had allegations made against them and for those making allegations.

Recent cases that Nia has been instructed in have involved:

- Fractured hip following a cycling accident.
- Amputation of arm following workplace injury.
- Multi-site injury and significant scarring following fall from a fairground ride.
- Lengthy surveillance evidence in a multi-injury, high value case, following road traffic collision where fundamental dishonesty was alleged.
- Burns due to allegedly defective coffee machine.
- Severe leg injury following dog bite.
- Chronic pain following fall on highway.

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Inquests & Inquiries

Nia is ranked in Chambers and Partners 2024 as 'Up and Coming' in the field of Inquests & Public Inquiries.

She accepts instructions to represent parties at inquest, and predominantly acts for bereaved families and NHS Trusts/Health Boards and other health bodies and professionals. The majority of her coronial work for families involves subsequent civil proceedings.

Nia has been involved in a number of matters relating to potential medical and surgical neglect, involving complex medical evidence. Her clinical negligence practice makes her adept in questioning both senior clinicians and medical experts in a wide variety of fields. As well as inquests with a health and medical context, Nia has also represented in inquests involving death in custody and those involving accident and misadventure. She has represented in multi-day inquests, with and without jury.

Nia has represented numerous families who have suffered the death of a baby or child, the analytical, yet sensitive, compassionate and personable approach she brings to these cases has allowed families to gain the most from these difficult proceedings. She always prioritises seeking answers to the questions the family have, and strives to achieve some sense of resolution for them through the coronial process.

In 2018 – 2019 Nia was instructed by the Metropolitan Police in the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

Nia is currently instructed as junior counsel to the Thirlwall Inquiry.

Family Law

Nia undertakes both public and private children work. She represents parents, children’s guardians, local authorities and other private individuals. She has represented vulnerable clients with learning difficulties and mental health conditions, and is committed to ensuring every client is able to engage in the court process. She is regularly instructed in both fact-finding and welfare hearings.

Nia has been instructed in cases involving allegations of abuse including non-accidental injuries, with complex multi-disciplinary medical evidence. Her clinical negligence experience makes Nia particularly able to both challenge and utilise medical evidence to her client’s advantage. In addition to non-accidental injury matters, Nia has appeared in cases involving fabricated and induced illness, parents with significant additional learning needs and their own complex health needs, and serious mental illness and substance abuse.

In her private law practice, Nia has represented both victims and alleged perpetrators of domestic abuse. She is well accustomed to cases involving long and complex courses of conduct. A number of her clients have been particularly vulnerable in their own right due to complex health needs. Nia works ably with both intermediaries and translators to ensure parties are fully able to engage in the court process.

Nia also represents the police in disclosure matters involving family proceedings, including applications where Public Interest Immunity is asserted in the High Court and where there are dual proceedings in both the Family Court and Criminal Court. Her experience in both family and criminal law makes her well placed to represent in these matters.

Memberships

- The Honourable Society of Gray’s Inn
- PIBA
- APIL

Education

- BPTC, BPP Law School, Graded Outstanding

- LLB, King's College London, Graded 2.1

Scholarships & Awards

- Major Scholar, Prince of Wales Scholarship, The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn
- Residential Scholarship, The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn