swinburne maddison

Family Law



We're not just a business; our clients are at the very heart of everything we do. We understand that family matters are deeply personal and often challenging. They need handling with trust and sensitivity, values we pride ourselves on. We take an empathetic approach, working alongside our clients and their families, offering bespoke advice.

Our Family Law team works to the highest standards of care. We handle cases from straightforward matters to more complex, high-net-worth ones and our commitment to provide tailored, client-focused advice never wavers.

We are dedicated to collaborative methods, helping resolve family disputes as amicably and as quickly as possible. This approach supports a positive outcome, which is especially important when children are involved.



Our services are tailored to meet your needs, including:

- · Divorce & Separation
- Child Arrangements& Custody
- · Financial Settlements
- Prenuptial & Postnuptial Agreements
- Cohabitation Agreements
- · Domestic Abuse Support

The way we look after you is as important as the work we do.

We offer more than legal advice and get to know you first. It's why we're easy to reach when you need to reach us. And why you can talk to us about anything.

Nothing is too complex

We're trusted to handle complex children's matters, including internal and international relocations, cross-jurisdiction disputes, paternity issues, and cases involving allegations of substance misuse, domestic violence, or child abuse - always with care and expertise.



A diverse client portfolio

We are regularly instructed by high-net-worth individuals in respect of 'protective' work such as pre-nuptial agreements. Typically, these cases included inherited wealth and/or a second marriage where a substantial portion of an individual's wealth has accumulated pre-marriage.

We also help and advise clients when their relationships have broken down, divorce cases can be complex, sometimes due to the types of assets to be shared. If clients have diverse portfolios including the likes of business interests, rental property portfolios, pensions, investments (including crypto) art and antiques, then understanding these complexities is essential.

Collaboration is key

At the heart of what we do is a commitment to finding fair and practical resolutions for our clients. Whether navigating divorce, separation, asset division, or arrangements for children, our team's goal is to deliver outcomes that feel right. Collaboration between parties is our preferred route, backed by the expertise of our specialists.

It's this dedication to amicable solutions that sets us apart, though we're equally skilled in taking a firm stance when needed. From courtrooms to collaboration tables, we bring empathy, expertise, and a shared desire to help families move forward confidently. This approach enables all parties to reach agreements, fostering a positive outcome, especially where children are involved.



Want to know how we're the right team for you?

Call today on **0191 384 2441** or complete our online enquiry form.

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Meet your Family Law team

Catherine Lowther

Title: Managing Associate
Date qualified: 2016

Specialisms: Divorce and Separation, Children's Matters, International Relocation, Pre-nuptial and Post nuptial Agreements, Cohabitation Agreements, Collaborative Family Law



Catherine regularly represents high net worth clients in respect of complex financial remedy proceedings, advising clients with significant and complex investments including £1million pension schemes, large investment property portfolios and complex business assets which often feature spouses as shareholders, directors and employees of a business for tax purposes.

Ellie Straughan

Title: Solicitor

Date qualified: 2023

Specialisms: Divorce and Separation, Children's Matters, international Relocation, Pre-nuptial and Post nuptial Agreements, Cohabitation Agreements



Ellie covers a range of contentious and non-contentious matters in family law. Ellie can advise on pre and post nuptial agreements, divorce applications and matters concerning the arrangements of children. Ellie was named as a Key Lawyer in Legal 500 2025 Edition, within 2 years of qualifying as a solicitor.

Niamh Wilson

Title: Solicitor

Date qualified: 2025

Specialisms: Divorce and Separation, Children's Matters, international Relocation, Pre-nuptial and Post nuptial Agreements, Cohabitation Agreements



With previous experience as a Paralegal, Niamh has developed a strong aptitude for Family Law, particularly in matters of divorce. She has proven to be an invaluable asset to the Family team during her training contract, consistently providing clients with honest, practical, and compassionate advice.

Our door is always open

Want to know how we're the right team for you?

Call today on **0191 384 2441** or complete our online enquiry form.