Oliver Jackson



Call: 2019

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Oliver specialises in public law and human rights, employment, education, competition and EU relations, data protection, procurement, commercial, and public international law.

He is ranked as a leading junior by Chambers & Partners for administrative and public law and data protection; and by Legal 500 for administrative law and human rights, employment, data protection, and public procurement.

He has appeared in courts from Port Talbot and Great Yarmouth to the Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights. His clients range from individuals, journalists and NGOs to multinational businesses, government departments and foreign states.

> ***Oliver has very good written advocacy.***
>
> **CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025**

Oliver is regularly instructed in the most high-profile disputes. Recent cases include:

- The challenge to the Government's private school fees VAT policy.
- The challenge to the Michaela School's ban on prayer rituals.
- The constitutional law 'Volvo limitation' appeal on the status of CJEU judgments post-Brexit.

- The challenge to the registration of the first private provider of cross-sex hormones for 16-17 year old children.
- Whether employment claims by diplomatic staff are barred by state immunity.
- The leading Supreme Court appeal on mental health after-care services.

From 2020 to 2021 Oliver was a judicial assistant at the UK Supreme Court and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, working on the most complex cases in the UK and from the Commonwealth. In 2024 he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Human Rights Lawyers Association.

He received a first-class degree in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University, where he graduated second in the year in his subject and won several scholarships and prizes. He has taught maths, physics and chemistry and enjoys cases that arise in a technical context.

Expertise

Education

Oliver is highly experienced in education law disputes and regularly acts for educational institutions, local authorities, students and parents. In 2024 and 2025 he acted in four separate high-profile education law judicial reviews, each of which was widely reported in the press.

R (AB) v Bristol City Council

[2025] EWHC 893 (ADMIN)

challenge to a £90 million 'safety value agreement' between the Department of Education and a local authority to cover SEND overspends (led by James Goudie KC, leading Rita Dias).

R (EBB) v The Gorse Academies Trust

[2025] EWHC 1983 (ADMIN)

wide-ranging challenge to use of isolation rooms at a high-performing Academy Trust (led by Jason Coppel KC and Hannah Slarks).

Achievements

Articles and Publications

'Public law in the Supreme Court 2020-2021' [2023] 28 JR 129 (with Isabella Buono)

'Limiting an employer's right to dismiss on notice: *Aspden v Webbs Poultry* and *USDAW v Tesco*', UK Labour Law Blog, 22 February 2023 (freely available here)

'Unconscionability, uncertainty and lawful act duress' [2021] 8 JBL 701 (available here)

Education

- BA Natural Sciences, Cambridge University (First)
- Graduate Diploma in Law, City University (Distinction)
- Bar Professional Training Course, City University (Outstanding)

Awards

- Phoenicia Scholar (Bar European Group)

- Postgraduate Scholar (City Law School)
- Certificate of Honour (Middle Temple)
- JJ Powell Prize (Middle Temple)
- Queen Mother Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Astbury Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Simon Walker Prize in Natural Sciences (Christ's College, Cambridge)
- Graduate Scholar (Christ's College, Cambridge)
- Levy Plumb Bursary and Newton Trust Bursary (Christ's College, Cambridge)

Other

Before joining the Bar Oliver worked on the civil service fast-stream. He also advised on human rights issues at Liberty, advocated for the abolition of the death penalty at Reprieve, and volunteered as a caseworker at the Bar Pro Bono Unit. He has taken university courses on economic history and policy alongside his legal practice.

He is a trustee of Brass for Africa, an international development charity building resilience and life skills in refugee camps in Uganda, Liberia and Rwanda.

> ***Oliver is an extremely good advocate. He is very thorough and helpful throughout.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

> ***He is a good advocate, who makes sensible points.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

> ***Very responsive, always on top of his game, incisive and collaborative.***
>
> LEGAL 500, 2026

> ***Oliver communicates very easily.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

> ***Oliver has very good written advocacy.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

> ***He provides very clear strategic objectives and tailors his advice to that.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

Oliver is really easy to deal with.

LEGAL 500, 2025

His written work is always very good.

LEGAL 500, 2025

An excellent advocate. He is diligent and able to robustly defend a case.

LEGAL 500, 2024