

The logo for Richmond Chambers LLP, featuring the text "RICHMOND CHAMBERS." in a white, sans-serif font, enclosed within a blue square frame with a thin border.

RICHMOND
CHAMBERS.

immigration barristers

PUPILLAGE WITH RICHMOND CHAMBERS LLP



WHAT OUR PUPILS SAY



"Richmond Chambers stands out from other immigration firms I have worked at due to the collegiate atmosphere and its unwavering commitment to achieving the best results for clients. Having started as a legal associate, I have had the opportunity to work closely with all of the barristers and have been pleasantly surprised at how generous each of them are with their time, guidance and advice. This has continued throughout pupillage, during which I have been encouraged to develop my own knowledge, skills and confidence. While hard work is expected, it is also valued. I have often been shooed out of Chambers in the evening, and professional and personal successes are recognised and celebrated both inside and outside of working hours."

Zarina Rahman, Pupil Barrister



"For an aspiring immigration barrister such as myself, there could have been no better choice for pupillage than Richmond Chambers. The opportunity to delve deeply into all aspects of immigration law alongside expert practitioners in the field is unparalleled and ensures an excellent training ground for budding immigration barristers. Upon joining, it became apparent to me that chambers' unique collegial atmosphere is not simply welcoming and motivational – the thorough exchange of thoughts and ideas amongst the set's barristers is key to the high standard of legal services it offers."

Alex Papatotiriou, Pupil Barrister

PUPILLAGE

Richmond Chambers offers up to three immigration law pupillages each year. Each pupillage is an employed pupillage, full time and for twelve months. During the twelve months each pupil is allocated to a pupil supervisor, but our pupils also have regular opportunities to work for other members of Chambers.



WHAT SORT OF WORK WILL I EXPERIENCE?

Pupils see a wide range of private client immigration law work including applications, appeals and judicial reviews involving investment migration, business migration, family migration, skilled worker migration, EEA free movement, nationality, human rights and asylum. Our focus on direct access work means that pupils can expect daily client contact.

HOW IS PUPILLAGE STRUCTURED?

The pupillage year is structured into two six month periods. The first six months is spent collaborating on a wide range of applications and appeals across all areas of personal and business immigration law, often involving complex and novel points of law. In the second six months, learning through experience continues, but the reputation of Richmond Chambers is such that our pupils can also expect to be briefed by both solicitors and members of the public in their own right.



WHAT ABOUT TRAINING?

We are committed to providing our pupils with high quality, relevant training. Our barristers provide regular feedback to our pupils in relation to all work undertaken under their supervision and we hold monthly in-house advocacy training. We also go beyond the Bar Council's training requirements and provide the additional training that we deem necessary for a successful direct access practice.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

We believe that pupillage should be about learning and gaining experience. Richmond Chambers' pupils are not required to undertake any competitive advocacy exercises or complete any formal assessments. Nor do we require our pupils to compete against each other. We evaluate each person individually based on merit.

WHAT ARE THE LONGER TERM PROSPECTS?

We are committed to recruiting new members from our pupils, after evaluation against our standards of excellence. Our recruitment and training processes are such that in the last 3 years all pupils have been offered and accepted membership of chambers at the end of their pupillage. We continue to support our new members in the early years of practice.

ARE YOUR PUPILLAGES FUNDED?

We offer each pupil a salary package of £25,000 plus additional benefits, including paid holiday and funding of compulsory pupillage courses required by the Bar Standards Board. Both salary and benefits can be expected to increase substantially upon successful completion of pupillage (see the Benefits section of our website for further details).



HOW DO I APPLY FOR PUPILLAGE?

Richmond Chambers is not in the Pupillage Gateway system.

Applications should be made using the Pupillage Application Form available on our website. The form must be completed electronically and emailed to our HR Manager, Nancy Holland, along with any correspondence from the BSB confirming any dispensations from pupillage and a completed Equality & Diversity Monitoring Form. We will not accept hard copy applications or consider any other material provided.



WHO SHOULD APPLY?

We look for pupils with excellent academic ability and a high level of motivation. Applicants must have at least a 2:1 degree, and in addition demonstrate a commitment to the Bar, an impressive academic or employment history, and an interest in our specialist area of work. Our successful candidates tend to be confident, articulate and interesting individuals with the right aptitude for working directly with members of the public. Neither undertaking a mini-pupillage with us or employment as a legal associate are prerequisites for a successful pupillage application. Applicants are encouraged to refer to the Pupillage Selection Criteria available on our website.



Equality and Diversity

Richmond Chambers LLP is an equal opportunities employer and complies with both the SRA and BSB equality and diversity guidelines. We encourage applications from candidates from all backgrounds, regardless of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, marital status, religion or belief, or disability.

Further Information

If you would like any further information regarding pupillage at Richmond Chambers, please contact our HR Manager, Nancy Holland (nancy.holland@richmondchambers.com).

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