



# Children Law Accreditation Scheme

## Law Society code of practice

Members of the Law Society's Children Law Accreditation Scheme, when representing a party in proceedings covered by the Children Act 1989, must agree to be bound by this code.

1. subject to paragraph 2, to not normally delegate the preparation, supervision, conduct or presentation of the case, but to deal with it personally.
2. in each case to consider whether it is in the best interests of the client to instruct another advocate in relation to the presentation or preparation of the case
3. if it is in the best interests of the client, or necessary, to instruct another advocate, to consider and advise the client or the Children's Guardian (if applicable) who should be instructed in the best interest of the client
4. any advocate that is instructed will either be
  - 4.1 another Children Law Accreditation Scheme member (approved as a Children Representative if the client is a child) or
  - 4.2 a member of the Bar on the members' practice's approved counsel list.
5. to obtain an undertaking from that advocate to:
  - 5.1 attend and conduct the matter personally unless an unavoidable professional engagement arises
  - 5.2 take all reasonable steps to ensure that so far as reasonably practicable a conflicting professional engagement does not arise.