

James Gamblin

Call: 2024



James Gamblin joined XXIV Old Buildings in October 2025, following the completion of pupillage. During pupillage, James gained experience across the full range of Chambers' work and is now building a broad Commercial and Chancery practice. He is happy to be instructed as sole counsel or as part of a team.

Examples of James' recent and ongoing instructions include:

- High-value DIFC proceedings for declaratory relief concerning the validity of an allegedly sham trust, as part of a wider, multi-jurisdictional dispute.
- ***Humphrys v Fraser and Fraser Limited*** – successful summary judgment application in probate proceedings in the High Court (unled).
- Advice on a number of contractual disputes at the pre-action stage, including, for example, the interpretation of deferred consideration clauses under a share purchase agreement, and the standard terms and conditions of a well-known social media company.

James graduated with first class honours with distinction (starred first) in Theology, Religion, and the Philosophy of Religion from the University of Cambridge. He came top of his year and received a number of academic scholarships and prizes. James was later awarded both the Exhibition Scholarship Award and the Profumo Scholarship Award by the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple while studying for the Bar Professional Training Course. Before coming to the Bar he also spent several months working as a paralegal on behalf of a respondent to the largest case of its type to have been brought before the Takeover Panel Hearing Committee.

Expertise

ADR

As a pupil, James gained experience of both mediations and arbitrations, including:

- Advising on the rules governing disclosure in arbitration proceedings.

- Advising on the remedies available to a tribunal to police a breach of an arbitration agreement.
- A mediation over a claim under the Inheritance (Provisions for Family and Dependents) Act 1975.

Art, Cultural Property & Luxury Assets

During pupillage, James gained experience of commercial disputes in the media sector, including a summary judgment application in a dispute between a well-known UK bassline collective and a record label.

Aviation & Travel

As a pupil, James gained experience of aviation and travel matters, including advising on a contractual dispute relating to the purchase of an aircraft.

Civil Fraud & Asset Recovery

- High-value DIFC proceedings for declaratory relief concerning the validity of an allegedly sham trust, as part of a wider, multi-jurisdictional dispute.
- Advising on the merits of a claim in conspiracy and the availability of relief under s.423 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

Further, during pupillage, James gained experience of various civil fraud matters, including:

- Drafting a defence to a claim alleging the fraudulent misappropriation of trust assets.
- Preparing an application for a freezing injunction in a case involving the alleged misrepresentation of company assets by a former employee.
- Drafting particulars of claim for a S.423 claim.

Commercial Litigation

James has advised on a number of contractual disputes at the pre-action stage, including, for example, the interpretation of deferred consideration clauses under a share purchase agreement, or the standard terms and conditions of a well-known social media company.

Further, as a pupil, James gained a wide experience of commercial litigation, including:

- Advising on the construction of a number of loan instruments.
- Drafting a defence to a debt/share capital claim.
- Advising a party on its costs position following a high-profile trial in the commercial court.
- Preparing a strike-out application in misrepresentation proceedings.
- Advising on a contractual dispute between an investment firm and a private equity placement advisory firm.

Company & Partnership Law

During pupillage, James gained experience in drafting and advising in various company law matters, including:

- Drafting a defence to a debt/share capital claim.
- Advising on a dispute involving a challenge to the validity of a solvency statement brought by the administrators of a company in insolvent liquidation.
- Drafting an unfair prejudice petition.

Insolvency

James deals with various aspects of corporate and personal insolvency. He is frequently instructed in winding up or bankruptcy petitions. Further, as a pupil, James gained experience of a range of insolvency matters, including:

- Advising on and drafting pleadings for a dispute involving a challenge to the validity of a solvency statement brought by the administrators of a company in insolvent liquidation.
- Advising on the merits of a claim brought by liquidators of a company against a former director.

International & Offshore

During pupillage, James gained experience of offshore matters, including:

- Drafting a witness statement for proceedings in Gibraltar to determine the construction of a trust instrument.
- A claim for declaratory relief in the Bahamas, involving issues of mental capacity.
- A complex jurisdictional challenge.
- Advising the protectors of a Guernsey Trust in proceedings brought for their removal.

Trusts, Probate & Estates

- High-value DIFC proceedings for declaratory relief concerning the validity of an allegedly sham trust, as part of a wider, multi-jurisdictional dispute.
- ***Humphrys v Fraser and Fraser Limited*** – successful summary judgment application in probate proceedings in the High Court (unled).
- Advising beneficiaries on potential claims following the misappropriation of assets from an estate.

As a pupil, James gained experience of the full range of Chambers' trusts, probate and estate work, including:

- Drafting a skeleton argument for an application under CPR Part 64 to determine the true construction of a will.
- Advising on and drafting pleadings for a contentious probate claim involving issues of want of knowledge and approval

and lack of testamentary capacity.

- Advising the protectors of a Guernsey Trust in proceedings brought for their removal.
- Advising on the winding up of a UK-resident trust.
- Drafting a skeleton argument for a claim involving the revocation of a large trust.

Publications

Co-author of the chapter on "Trust Protectors" in *Planning and Administration of Offshore and Onshore Trusts* title published by the Bloomsbury Professional Tax and Accounting List (2026).

Academic History

Bar Professional Training Course – University of Law

MA in Law – University of Law

BA in Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion – Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge

Professional Memberships

COMBAR (The Commercial Bar Association)

Scholarships and Prizes/ Awards

- Exhibition Scholarship (Inner Temple)
- Profumo Scholarship (Inner Temple)
- 1912 Fitzwilliam College Honorary Senior Scholarship (Cambridge)
- Thatcher Prize (Cambridge)
- Isley Prize (Cambridge)
- Teape Prize (Cambridge)
- Gibson Prize (Cambridge)



Business Details

Registered name: James Gamblin

LONDON XXIV Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3UP **DX** LDE 307 **T** +44 (0)20 7691 2424

GENEVA XXIV Old Buildings, Rue Saint-Léger 2, 1205 Geneva, Switzerland

clerks@xxiv.co.uk | www.xxiv.co.uk

XXIV Old Buildings is regulated by the BSB

XXIV
OLD BUILDINGS

LONDON

XXIV Old Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn,
London WC2A 3UP

DX LDE 307
T +44 (0)20 7691 2424

GENEVA

XXIV Old Buildings,
Rue Saint-Léger 2,
1205 Geneva,
Switzerland