

James Preece

Year of Call: 2016



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CHAMBERS

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Before being called to the Bar, James spent time developing his experience in preparation for pupillage. He has worked as an appropriate adult (supporting young/vulnerable people detained at police stations) and as an A level Law teacher.

James was called to the Bar in 2016. He completed a specialised criminal law pupillage under the supervision of Colin Buckle in 2017. Since then, James has continued to build his practice in criminal law.

James appears mostly in the Crown Court but also has experience in the Court of Appeal, the Magistrates Court and the Youth Court. James both prosecutes and defends across all areas of criminal law. James is on the Crown Prosecution Service's Advocates Panel at Level 3.

James works hard and prides himself on a thorough and careful approach to his cases.

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Education

University of Cambridge: BA (Hons) Law
Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding)

Professional Memberships

Northern Circuit
CPS Advocates Panel Level 3

Notable Cases

R v L - Defended in a 9-count robbery trial. Successful oral application to adduce the complainant's antecedent record under s100(1)(b) CJA 2003 to counter a misleading statement; acquitted.

R v F - Prosecuted assault of an emergency worker trial involving a Defence challenge to the legality of the officers' actions; convicted.

R v S - Defended in a possession with intent to supply class A trial with an issue of intent to supply. Cross examined the drugs expert; acquitted.

R v C - Defended vulnerable defendant in a sexual assault by penetration trial; hung jury.

R v H - Prosecuted a 2-defendant robbery case in a hearing about an alleged abuse of process (by reason of delay). Application to stay (as an abuse) was successfully opposed; case resolved by acceptable G pleas being entered.

R v C - Defended in a s28 pre-recorded cross examination of an elderly complainant in a violent dwelling

burglary case.

R v C - Defended in a s18 GBH with intent trial. Acquitted of s18 GBH with intent and convicted of the lesser offence of s20 GBH without intent.

R v S - Defended in a trial involving a charge of ill treatment by a care worker of a person without capacity. Successful submission of no case to answer.

R v O - Appeared in the Court of Appeal to defend in an appeal against sentence on a conveying a prohibited article (drugs) into prison charge. Appeal allowed (on ground of totality); sentence reduced; case reported.

R v M - Led defence junior for the first defendant in a trial involving a very lengthy indictment of historic sexual abuse.

R v B - Defended in a fraud case. Drafted application to exclude the hearsay evidence from the complainant; prosecution offered no evidence.