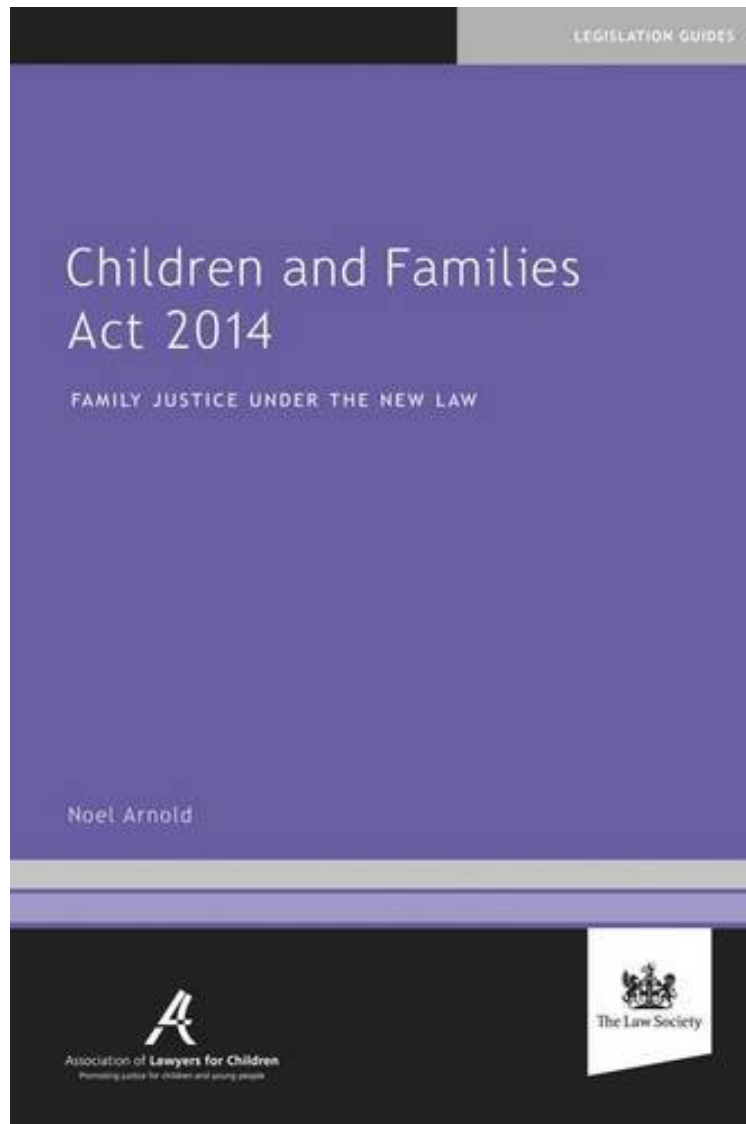


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Children and Families Act 2014: Family Justice Under the New Law

Noel Arnold

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. For family practitioners....By Phillip Taylor MBEFOR FAMILY PRACTITIONERS: AN INDISPENSABLE GUIDE TO THE NEW CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ACT 2014An appreciation by Phillip Taylor MBE and Elizabeth Taylor of Richmond Green ChambersAs it is an imperative and

indeed a duty for lawyers to keep up with changes in the law, all family lawyers, particularly those dealing with children, will need to acquire this book as a matter of urgency. A new publication from the Law Society, this book not only contains in full, all parts of the Children and Families Act 2014 that deal with family justice matters, it also explains, clarifies and comments upon each of those parts. The result is an authoritative and accessible work of reference which functions as a guide to the new law. Endorsed by the Association of Lawyers for Children, of which the author Noel Arnold is a member, the book includes the key legislation, with emphasis on the key changes which the legislation has introduced. Such changes include matters relating to adoption, fostering and orders for contact private family law arrangements time limits for care... supervision proceedings and scrutiny of care plans. Also included in this by no means exhaustive list is coverage of the introduction of compulsory mediation information assessment meetings (MIAMs). As the new Act both reflects and responds to many of the attitudinal and social changes that have evolved over the past quarter century, the commentary points up its impact -- succinctly yet in some detail -- as compared with the Children Act 1989. To cite only one example, there has been a significant enhancement of the role of the Children's Commissioner. Where previously the main function of the Commissioner was to promote awareness of the views and interests of children (as implemented in the 2004 amended legislation), the new Act now makes it the Commissioner's primary function to promote and protect the rights of children in England. There is a significant difference here, which the new legislation exemplifies. It is not unfair to say that the new Act incorporates so many changes that practitioners will conceivably have a problem assimilating them all in a relatively short space of time. The author addresses this problem successfully, as most readers would agree, in that the book is logically structured for ease of use. Besides numbered paragraphs throughout and a detailed index at the back, the typical chapter will include, for example, a section on why change was suggested, before further discussion under the headings of What has Changed and Practice Points. The author has obviously taken a time-saving and practical approach which will be greatly appreciated by practitioners under pressure. Undeniably, this book is an indispensable tool for the busy family lawyer, whether solicitor or barrister -- and will no doubt be regarded by practitioners in this challenging area of law, as an essential purchase. The law is cited as up to date as of 27 July 2014.

The Children and Families Act 2014 is the most far-reaching child welfare legislation to be introduced by Parliament since the Children Act 1989. The Children and Families Act 2014 offers you the full text of all the Parts of the Act dealing with family justice matters, including commentary on each of those parts. Expert author Noel Arnold also outlines the major changes that you need to be aware of and offers insight into how these may impact the day-to-day practice of the busy family lawyer. Key changes introduced by this new legislation impact areas including: Adoption and orders for contact or no contact Aspects of the family justice system Private family law arrangements for children and parental involvement Time limits for care and supervision proceedings The introduction of compulsory mediation information assessment meetings (MIAMs) Fostering to adopt Scrutiny of care plans. How this guide is of benefit to you: Reproduces the pertinent sections of the new Act, and offers invaluable commentary on each part of it Offers guidance on the major changes to children law you need to be aware of and outlines how they will affect family proceedings Includes up-to-date information including the key legislation Endorsed by the Association of Lawyers for Children.

"As someone who runs a family law news site, I like to think that I keep up to date with changes being introduced. However, until I read this book I didn't appreciate just how much change the Act has brought with it." John Bolch, Familylore.co.uk "An authoritative and accessible work of reference which functions as a guide to the new law" Phillip and Elizabeth Taylor, Richmond Green Chambers About the Author Noel Arnold is a practising solicitor and the Director of Legal Practice at Coram Children's Legal Centre. He is the author of the Solicitor's Journal quarterly Children Law Update, has written for several journals on children law and previously contributed to three Law Society books on children law. Noel is a member of the Association of Lawyers for Children's Executive Committee and the Law Society's Children Law Sub-Committee. He is accredited to the Law Society's Children Law Accreditation Scheme and has delivered extensive training on public family law reform.