

# 12

King's Bench Walk

## Arun Katyar

Call: 1993

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### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Fraud, Public Authority Liability, Inquests, Abuse

Arun is an experienced advocate specialising in personal injury. He is recommended in both the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners as a leading junior in this field.

Arun acts for both Claimants and Defendants in high value multi-track cases, and is experienced in the full range of County and High Court trials, including claims involving fatality, chronic pain syndromes, serious spinal and brain injuries, and other forms of catastrophic injury.

### Public Authority Liability

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Arun has, through reputation, become a popular choice with many local authorities within London and the south east, dealing with all aspects of employer's liability, road traffic, public liability and highways claims.

In recent years he successfully defended a local authority in the High Court against a personal injury claim brought by a teacher involving interesting arguments on breach of duty; *Alexis v. Newham London Borough Council* [2009] ICR 1517; [2009] WLR (D) 186; [2009] EWHC 1323 (QB).

### Qualifications

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LLB (Hons)

### Directories

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Chambers & Partners 2019; *"He is a solid, careful and attentive barrister."*

Ranked as a leading junior in the Legal 500 UK 2016; *"He has the courage of his convictions."*

Legal 500 UK 2018; *"Very safe pair of hands with immense experience in all types of personal injury."*

Legal 500 UK 2017; *"He has superb knowledge of personal injury matters."*

Chambers & Partners 2018; *"Has an impressive and encyclopaedic knowledge of personal injury law, procedure and tactics."* *"Very good with clients and very reassuring. He prepares very thoroughly for cases and cuts to the chase."*

### Publications

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“It’s Just Not Cricket”; Ent. L.R. 1998, 9(5), 196-199

Legal remedies available to holiday makers following the abandonment / cancellation of a test match between England and the West Indies at Sabina Park – Package Travel Regulations – Contract.

## Cases

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*Alexis v. Newham London Borough Council (instructed by the Defendant)*

[2009] ICR 1517; [2009] WLR (D) 186; [2009] EWHC 1323 (QB)

Acted for a local education authority, sued by a teacher who claimed c. £700,000 in damages following a psychiatric injury after a poisoning incident at a school, that allegedly ended her teaching career. A pupil permitted unsupervised access to classroom, having been entrusted with keys by another staff member, used the opportunity to add whiteboard cleaning fluid to the Claimant’s water bottle. Issues arose in relation to foreseeability, and in particular the extent of the common law duty of care owed to teachers by the local authority. The case was successfully defended, it being held the local authority was not in breach of duty. It was absurd to suggest teachers should not have the discretion to ask pupils to pop along a corridor to get something from another classroom, and the staff member was not negligent in circumstances where she handed over keys to a pupil whose reliability there was no reason to doubt.