

2 TEMPLE GARDENS – PUPILLAGE SELECTION CRITERIA

1. High Intellectual ability

The selection panel will look for an ability to absorb complex information rapidly, to identify essentials and to construct an argument. This may be demonstrated by performance at interview. The panel will take account of A Level and GCSE results (or equivalent) and, where available, degree marks, GDL and BPTC scores and grades as well as references. The panel will normally expect applicants to have (or be predicted) a First or high 2:1, with strong A Levels (or equivalent). The panel will take into account any relevant mitigating circumstances in considering grades, but will look for other evidence of high intellectual ability and achievement. The panel will also look beyond academic results in seeking to identify candidates with potential or flair. The panel will give appropriate weight to any other matters on the Pupillage Gateway form or arising from interview which demonstrate high intellectual ability.

2. Ability to “think on your feet”

This may be demonstrated by performance during the first round advocacy exercise, at interview or (for example) by proven success in mooting or debating.

3. Motivation

The panel will look for a commitment to a practice at the Bar. In addition, the candidate will be required to demonstrate drive, determination, leadership skills and an ability to see things through to a successful conclusion. This may be demonstrated by (for example) achievement in non-academic fields or by overcoming adversity.

4. Impact

The panel will look for an articulate and confident response to questions and a reassuring manner. The panel will take due account of the fact that some candidates may be nervous and that the level of interview experience may vary.

5. Temperament

The panel will seek to identify an ability to work under pressure, to cope with stress, to remain calm but confident. This may be demonstrated by evidence of (for example) undertaking a wide range of extra-curricular activities but at the same time achieving academic success, or by studying for a degree at the same time as working or bringing up a family.

6. Commitment to 2 Temple Gardens

The panel will seek to identify a commitment to these Chambers and the work undertaken by the members of Chambers.