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| **Instructions to candidates**1. This application form consists of 5 sections (A-E). Candidates should complete all sections of this application form unless marked otherwise.
2. Section A includes personal details and eligibility criteria. No marks are awarded to Section A. The eligibility criteria will be applied and a candidate number assigned. Section A will then be detached from the remaining form before blind marking takes place for sections B-E.
3. Sections B to E will be separately marked by two individuals. An average score will be calculated. The scores assigned to Sections B to E are set out at the beginning of each section.
4. Candidates should save their completed application form as a Word document with their name, followed by the words 'DWF Chambers' as the title (e.g. *'Sam Smith DWF Chambers'*).
5. Completed forms are to be sent by email to pupillage@dwf.law by 11:59pm on Thursday 6 February 2025. Applications received after this time will not be read or eligible for consideration.
6. Interviews will take place on Thursday 20 and Friday 21 March 2025 in DWF's Manchester office (1 Scott Place, 2 Hardman Street, Manchester, M3 3AA). Time slots will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The Manchester office is an accessible building.
7. This application form is intentionally institution-blind. Please do not include your institution of study when completing the application form.
8. At this stage of the process, we do not ask for details of referees however, candidates who are invited to interview may be asked for details of referees at that stage.
9. We do not provide feedback to candidates on the strength of their application form. The volume and variety of applications makes it impossible for us to provide meaningful and constructive feedback to all candidates. We are committed to treating candidates fairly.
 |

**SECTION A: Personal Details and Eligibility Criteria**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name**: |  |
| **Mobile number**:  |  |
| **Email**:  |  |
| **Town/city of residence:**  |  |
| **Inn of Court**:  |  |
| **Date of Call:** |  |

**Please mark with an X your preferred DWF office location. Whilst not guaranteed, attempts will be made to place successful candidates in their preferred office, subject to business need.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Birmingham** |  |
| **Leeds** |  |
| **Liverpool** |  |
| **London** |  |
| **Manchester** |  |

**Please confirm the following:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **I have the right to work in the UK** |  |
| **I will have completed the academic stage of training by September 2025** |  |
| **I meet the minimum academic threshold (*2:1 at undergraduate degree and very competent in the academic stage of training*)** |  |

**Extenuating Circumstances – if you do not meet the minimum academic threshold, please provide any extenuating circumstances to enable us to consider taking your application further. Please note this is not a compulsory section and should be used only where applicable.**

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**Special Requirements – please use this section to provide information about any special requirements or reasonable adjustments which might be required to facilitate your engagement with the application process. Please note that the interview venue is a fully accessible building.**

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**SECTION B: Academics**

**This section is marked out of 10. This section is used to assess the selection criteria 'an excellent academic record'. Please add as many entries as required.**

**GCSEs or equivalent**

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| **Subject** | **Grade** | **Date Obtained** |
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**A-Levels or equivalent**

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| **Subject** | **Grade** | **Date Obtained** |
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**Undergraduate Degree**

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| --- | --- |
| **Course:**  |  |
| **Dates (years):** |  |
| **Overall classification:**  |  |

**BREAKDOWN OF RESULTS**

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| --- | --- |
| **Module** | **Grade & Raw Mark (e.g. 2:1, 67)** |
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**Post-Graduate Qualifications (GDL / BVC / BPTC)**

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| --- | --- |
| **Course:**  |  |
| **Dates (years):** |  |
| **Overall classification:**  |  |

**BREAKDOWN OF RESULTS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Module** | **Grade & Raw Mark (e.g. VC, 76)** |
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**Scholarships / Awards**

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**SECTION C: Employment and Experience**

**This section is marked out of 15. We are particularly interested in information which provides evidence of the selection criteria 'a commitment to a career at the bar' and 'excellence in advocacy'.**

**Legal Experience (include legal employment, mini-pupillages, mooting, debating and marshalling)**

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**Non-Legal Experience (non-legal employment, extra-curricular activities and positions of responsibility)**

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**Practice Areas of Interest (list with brief reasons why)**

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**SECTION D: QUESTIONNAIRE**

**This section is marked out of 15. Please answer all questions and ensure answers are no longer than the word limit. This section is used to assess the selection criteria 'commitment to a career at the bar' and 'excellence in reasoning and problem solving skills'.**

1. **What do you perceive to be the benefits of the employed Bar over the self-employed Bar?**

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| (200 words) |

1. **Why would you like to join DWF Chambers?**

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| --- |
| (200 words) |

1. **What is the strongest element of your application?**

|  |
| --- |
| (50 words) |

1. **What is the weakest element of your application?**

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| (50 words)  |

**Section E: Essay**

**This section is marked out of 20. Please answer one of the two questions below. This section is used to assess the selection criteria 'excellence in reasoning and problem solving skills'.**

Argue against one of the below notions:

1. *Social media platforms should be subject to increased regulation to protect the safety of children and vulnerable users.*

OR

1. *The prisoner early release scheme is solely a positive move towards community-based rehabilitation.*

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| (500 words) |