Will Noble

Junior Counsel - Above 15 Years
CALLED 2000

"He is a top-notch junior, it is only a matter of time before he takes silk. "
LEGAL 500, 2025

Will is a well regarded barrister with extensive experience defending and prosecuting serious crime throughout the south-east.

Defending, he is a tenacious advocate with a proven track record. He is also a Level 4 prosecutor accustomed to managing large complex cases with multiple defendants.

Background and Expertise

Will's recent instructions include murder, manslaughter and other serious violence; rape and other sexual offences; child abuse; kidnappings; large-scale drug cases; firearms; fraud; deception; regulatory offences; and proceeds of crime proceedings.
He has an approachable and personable style, which enables him to establish rapport with both professional and lay clients.

Will is a pupil supervisor and an advocacy trainer.

Notable Cases

Drugs

R v O, 2026

Defence counsel for a man charged with grievous bodily harm with intent to two complainants (using his teeth). The defendant contends that the assaults occurred during a psychotic episode leading to an asserted defence of insanity.

Trial to be heard in 2026.

Snaresbrook Crown Court

R v B and others, 2019

Successful prosecution of multi-handed "county lines" drugs operation. The head of the serious crime group was based in London; he built up a network of vulnerable young people who were groomed and subsequently recruited to deliver drugs and move money between London and Hertfordshire. The case involved detailed analysis of call data and cell site patterns as well as establishing phone number attribution in order to show how the operation worked and who was "at the top of the tree".

St. Albans Crown Court

News report here

Drugs

Financial Crime

R v R, 2028

Lead defence counsel for an office administrator whom the prosecution allege was party to multi-handed a conspiracy to defraud HMRC. The prosecution alleges that the defendant was involved, with others, in the falsification of invoices and in the suppression of Construction Industry Scheme returns in order to avoid tax liability. The value of the fraud is estimated to be £50m. The trial has been fixed in 2028 with a time estimate of 3½ months.

R v A, 2018

Lead counsel in the successful defence of a man charged in a multi-handed conspiracy to defraud trial. The case related to a sophisticated £1.2m “cash for crash” scheme. The case involved approximately 20,000 pages of evidence. The defence that was advanced necessitated an attack on the credibility of solicitors and a doctor contending that they were not prosecution witnesses of truth but parties to the conspiracy. The jury accepted that the defendant had been the subject of identity theft.

R v U and others, 2015

Prosecuted a case involving multiple ATM ramraids in the east of England, carried out by a well organised gang who had been linked to the offences by cell site evidence, bugging and covert surveillance.

R v SA, 2013

Successfully prosecuted a multi-million-pound fraud and money laundering trial involving internet ‘phishing’ frauds in the UK, and the expatriation of the proceeds of crime through an export company based in Nigeria.

Financial Crime

General Crime

R v B, 2026

Prosecution counsel in the alleged kidnapping and torture of two French nationals from whom the defendants sought to extort millions of pounds worth of crypto currency.

Trial to be heard in 2026

Inner London Crown Court

R v G, 2025

Defence counsel for a nurse jointly charged with her partner with causing injury to her newly born child. The defendant denied causing any injury or allowing injury to be caused. The case involved a multitude of competing and conflicting medical opinion. Acquittal secured.

Cambridge Crown Court

R v G, 2019

The prosecution of a serial arsonist who set fire to several properties in rural Bedfordshire causing in

excess of £1 million worth of damage and putting numerous lives at risk. The defendant received a life sentence following his conviction at trial.

Luton Crown Court

News report here

R v D and another, 2019

Lead counsel in the defence of a man who was accused of robbing the first defendant during which the first defendant murdered the second defendant's companion. The two defendants were tried together with each running a "cutthroat" defence against the other.

St. Albans Crown Court

News report here

R v G, 2018

Successful acquittal of the alleged getaway driver in an alleged armed robbery in which the defendants had travelled down from London to Gravesend in the early hours of the morning, forced their way into a house and sought to rob the complainants at gunpoint.

R v S, 2014

Defended the former IT manager of a large international wine importer, who hacked into his ex-employer's computer systems and caused widespread damage and destruction of data.

R v U and others, 2012

Successfully prosecuted a 12-handed sham marriage trial, on behalf of the UK Borders Agency. The case involved a series of conspiracies to secure unlawful entry into the UK by Bangladeshi nationals who then sought to legitimise their presence in the UK by entering into sham marriages with EU nationals.

Crime

Murder and Manslaughter

R v F, 2025

Defence counsel for a 16 year old youth charged with murder on the basis of secondary liability. The case against the defendant is that he supplied a weapon which was subsequently used in a murder. The case involves complex considerations of parasitic liability.

Northampton Crown Court

R v S, 2025

Prosecution counsel in an attempted murder case where the complainant was stabbed in the head leading to lifelong debilitating injury and leaving him unfit to give evidence. The attack is said to have been a revenge attack for the murder of a rival gang member, however, the complainant was the victim of mistaken identity.

Snaresbrook Crown Court

R v K, 2025

Prosecution counsel in an attempted murder trial where the defendant deliberately drove his car at the victim leading to catastrophic injury. The victim survived but was unable to give evidence due to the level of injury sustained.

Croydon Crown Court

R v P, 2025

Instructed to prosecute a man with significant mental health difficulties accused of the attempted murder of an 11 year old girl. The circumstances are that the victim was with her mother in Leicester Square when she was subjected to an unprovoked and frenzied knife attack. The defendant, who was a stranger, has since been assessed as 'unfit' to plead, it has yet to be determined whether he was able to form the intent at the time of the attack. It is anticipated that this will be a 'trial of issue' in which all evidence will need to be called including 'live link' witness evidence from Australia. The trial is due to take place later this year.

Hitherto, the case has involved complex applications regarding reporting restrictions. The UK press seeks the permission of the court to report on matters which they say the foreign press has been able to. The UK press assert that the information is already in the public domain, however, both the prosecution and defence resist the lifting of UK prohibitions at this early stage so as to ensure that the trial process is not inadvertently fettered.

Central Crown Court

Read more here

R v B and others, 2025

Multi-handed conspiracy to murder trial at the Central Criminal Court involving over 20,000 pages of

evidence and lasting over 4 months. The case involves an alleged plan to execute a rival gang member. The gun was discharged injuring but failing to kill the intended target. The victim refused to co-operate with the police investigation and so the case had to be pursued based on CCTV, cell site and ANPR analysis. The prosecution contented that the intended execution was well planned and orchestrated with each of the 8 defendants playing their part.

Central Criminal Court

R v D, 2025

Prosecution counsel in an attempted murder in which the complainant refused to assist the police. The defendant and complainant had been in a relationship. The victim had been the male victim of domestic violence over a number of years. The defendant stabbed the victim in the chest and left him to die, fortunately, he did not. There was a series of hearsay accounts which were argued to be admissible along with the piecing together of CCTV and cell site evidence to prove a circumstantial case against the defendant.

Snaresbrook Crown Court

R v D & D, 2023

Prosecution of a manslaughter case in which the only two people who were able to say what actually happened would have been the deceased and the first defendant. Presentation of the case relied on CCTV of events prior to and post the incident, cell site evidence and the interpretation of post mortem pathology.

The first defendant was convicted of manslaughter.

The second defendant was the first defendant's brother who was convicted of assisting his brother after the event and for attempting to pervert the course of justice by destroying evidence.

R v K, 2023

Defence trial counsel for a man charged with the kidnap and rape of a child. The case involved a number of days of legal argument involving the admissibility of psychiatric and medical evidence as well as hearsay and non-defendant bad character evidence.

R v B, 2021

Murder acquittal for 15 year old boy. The defendant was the younger of two brothers alleged to have mounted a planned attack on the ex-boyfriend of their mother, on the doorstep of a home he was about to enter.

R v DS, 2021

Successful prosecution of multi-handed conspiracy to murder trial at the Old Bailey. Victim shot through the letter box of his home. 4 men prosecuted and convicted following extensive cell site, mobile phone and ANPR analysis. The case also involved expert interpretation of ballistic, DNA and GSR evidence.

R v M, 2019

Prosecution of a 15 year old boy for attempted murder in which the victim (also a 15 year boy) was stabbed multiple times during a dispute in north London. The case involved the careful handling of vulnerable child witnesses. The defendant was convicted of s.18 GBH in the alternative. The defence appealed the conviction, leave was granted but, following argument from both sides, the defendant's appeal was rejected by the Court of Appeal.

R v K and others, 2015

Secured murder acquittal in joint enterprise murder trial at the Old Bailey. Case involved a gang who conspired to rob a wealthy businessman who was murdered by a co-defendant during the robbery.

R v S and others, 2013

Successfully defended the alleged getaway driver in a trial for conspiracy to murder.

R v P, 2010

Murder within the Polish community in Stevenage, in which the victim was beaten to death by two known associates.

R v J, 2010

Defended in what the prosecution asserted was a gunpoint execution following a failed robbery and drugs deal.

Murder and Manslaughter

Rape ans Sexual Offences

R v B, 2027

Prosecution counsel in a case against an NHS nurse who is alleged to have sexually abused a patient in his care whilst she was suffering seizures on the hospital ward where the defendant worked.

Case to be heard in 2027

Snaresbrook Crown Court

R v V, 2025

Prosecution counsel in an alleged abduction and rape case in which the complainant asserted that she was kidnapped and detained against her by a stranger before being taken to an address where she was physically assaulted and raped.

Isleworth Crown Court

R v C, 2025

Prosecution counsel in a case involving a spree of sexual assaults and attempted rape against multiple women (strangers to the defendant) in different locations of London on a single day. The defendant was autistic and had learning difficulties. The cross-examination of the defendant had to be carefully managed to ensure that his evidence was tested but with allowances made for his neurodiversity.

Woolwich Crown Court

R v P, 2022

Successful prosecution of a serial rapist who targeted and solicited prostitutes whom he suspected were in the UK unlawfully. The defendant pretended to be a police officer, brandished a gun and threatened the women with deportation before raping and robbing them. The case involved liaison and co-operation with a number of overseas authorities as well as video linked testimony from South America.

R v A, 2018

Defence of a former taxi driver prosecuted for multiple historic rapes on vulnerable women picked up in his taxi late at night. Defendant was identified by his DNA 10 years after the events. The defendant contested the allegations alleging consent.

R v H, 2016

Prosecuted a father on trial for the rape and sexual abuse of his young children. The defendant videoed or photographed the offences taking place, but his identity could not be ascertained from the images. The recordings were stored online and distributed. The victims were too young to give evidence.

R v O, 2026

Defence counsel for a man charged with grievous bodily harm with intent to two complainants (using his teeth). The defendant contends that the assaults occurred during a psychotic episode leading to an asserted defence of insanity.

Trial to be heard in 2026.

Snaresbrook Crown Court

R v M, 2024

Prosecuting counsel in a case concerning a controlling and coercive relationship in which the complainant alleged multiple incidents of rape, sexual assault, GBH, strangulation and controlling behaviour. The complainant is a former drug addict with significant mental health issues. The complainant had made numerous complaints in the past but had always withdrawn her support prior to charge. The complainant was vulnerable and had to be managed accordingly. We were able to 'resurrect' a series of historic allegations by relying on medical evidence and police call outs dating back over 5 years.

Woolwich Crown court

R v J, 2018

Murder acquittal in youth gang violence which resulted in a fatal stabbing.

R v W, 2017

Leading junior in the defence of the first defendant in a 14-handed gang violence trial, involving the discharge of a machine gun and other firearms in central Bedford.

R v M, 2009

Defended in three-month trial for conspiracy to rob and conspiracy to cause GBH, involving an alleged gang in south London who indiscriminately robbed and seriously assaulted 56 people over a five-month period.

Violence

Achievements

Memberships

- SEC
- CBA
- Herts & Beds Bar Mess (mess junior)

Appointments

- CPS Panel (Grade 4)
- CPS Rape Panel (Grade 4)

Education

- BVC, College of Law London
- CPE, College of Law York
- BA Philosophy, University of Wales
- Bryanston School

Recognition

"He is a top-notch junior, it is only a matter of time before he takes silk." **Legal 500, 2025**

"Will is solid in court." **Chambers and Partners, 2025**

"Will has an enviable reputation with the judiciary and is very much someone who always has the ear of the court." **Legal 500, 2025**

"Will is one of the rare barristers who is great in court, excellent with clients and always very thorough with preparation. He is so well regarded by judges and opponents. He is top notch." **Legal 500, 2024**

"He gets to the heart of the case and provides sage advice." **Chambers and Partners, 2024**

"Will is dedicated and fights ferociously for his clients. His advocacy is determined and persuasive and has the ability to turn the unwinnable into a winner." **Legal 500, 2023**

"He is adept at absorbing large amounts of data and information and presenting it to the jury in a way that is not daunting." **Chambers and Partners, 2023**

"Will is a fair prosecutor in court and a pleasant colleague outside of it." **Chambers and Partners, 2023**

"A very able advocate who is good at cases which are paper-heavy or laden with information and schedules." **Chambers and Partners, 2023**

"A clear, persuasive advocate who fights hard for his client." **Chambers and Partners, 2021**