PORTER
DODSON
Commercial & Private Law



Careers at Porter Dodson





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PORTER DODSON

Welcome

We are looking forward to welcoming the next intake of trainee solicitors, and are really committed to investing in our staff in order to develop the future leaders of our firm.

Porter Dodson is a B Corp Certified, Top 200 UK Law Firm, providing legal services to both private and corporate clients across the South West. We are renowned for a clear-cut, no-nonsense approach that delivers the best possible outcome for our clients.

We know what a crucial time this is for aspiring solicitors, and that it is so important to collect as much information as possible about your future employers.

We would encourage anyone looking at a career in law to get in touch and find out more about what Porter Dodson can offer you.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE | Gold

Chambers RANKED IN UK 2026
Porter Dodson Solicitors

LEADING FIRM
Legal500 UNITED KINGDOM 2026

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About Porter Dodson

Our team of expert legal advisors provide legal services to a huge variety of clients across the South West and nationally. We pride ourselves on retaining staff who embody our company values, are a good team fit, and are proactive in business development to deliver the best results.

We provide support in the following specialist areas:

For Commercial Clients:

- Corporate Commercial
- Commercial Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Property
- Employment
- Rural Business, Land and Agriculture
- Primary Care, Dental & Care Homes

For Private Clients:

- Contentious Wills, Trusts and Estates
- Family Law
- Court of Protection, Mental Capacity & Care
- Residential Property
- Employment advice for individuals
- Wills and Probate
- Trusts and Estate Planning

With over 200 staff, spread across 7 offices in Somerset, Devon and Dorset, over the last 25 years we have built, and continue to nurture, an excellent client base that benefits from our extensive experience and areas of practice.

Career Opportunities

If you have decided to pursue a career in the legal industry, whether you have studied Law at University, or not, we could have the right opportunity for you. Our training contracts are designed to offer a structured pathway for aspiring solicitors to embark on a fulfilling career journey within our Firm.

	Requirements for Candidates	What's in it for you
LPC*	Law Degree, minimum 2:1 A Levels, minimum BBB	Option for funded training Study leave Seat rotations – four six-month seats Structured training and development
SQE	Law Degree or equivalent, minimum 2:1 Non-Law Degree, minimum 2:1 A Levels, minimum BBB	Option for funded training for SQE1 & 2 courses Study leave Seat rotations – four six-month seats Structured training and development

***Please note**, you can only continue with the LPC route if you meet the SRA requirements and cut off dates. Visit www.sra.org.uk for full details.







Benefits Package

As well as producing top quality solicitors, our aim at Porter Dodson is to ensure that our staff have the best quality of life, enjoying a great working environment and a range of company benefits.

In addition to our competitive salaries, training and genuine opportunities for progression, here are some more of our company benefits:

- Health Insurance with cash back benefit
- Employee Assistance program
- Auto-enrolment on to company pension scheme
- Payment of annual professional memberships
- 25 days holiday + bank holidays
- Extra day of leave for your birthday
- Gym membership discounts
- Flexible Working
- Cycle to Work scheme
- Eye tests
- Legal support
- Regular office socials
- Mental health first aiders and training
- Opportunities to get involved with events planning, charity fundraising and CSR initiatives

Our People

Our people are vital to the success of Porter Dodson; we are always looking for bright, conscientious and friendly people to join our teams. Meet some of our current and previous trainee cohort, as well as some of the key people you will work with during your training to become a qualifed solicitor.



Susannah Emson

Susannah is the Training Principal and a Partner in our Probate, Tax and Trusts team. She specialises in advising high net worth individuals, farming and business clients with their estate and succession planning, including the creation of complex Wills and Trusts and advising on inheritance tax.



Jenna Carter

Jenna is our Recruitment and Early Careers Manager and is likely to be one of your first points of contact. She has over 10 years of experience in talent acquisition, supporting legal and professional services firms. Jenna is an Associate CIPD Member and a passionate advocate for diversity and inclusion in the workplace.



Will Doherty

Will is a newly qualified Solicitor in the Family matrimonial finances team, following the completion of his Training Contract at Porter Dodson in 2025. Previously he completed his GDL and Legal Practice Course at City, University of London before joining Porter Dodson as a Trainee Solicitor in 2023.



Tara Searle

Tara joined Porter Dodson in 2022 as a Commercial Litigation Paralegal and started her Training Contract in September 2025. She graduated from the University of Exeter with a BSc in Business and Management before completing her MA in Law at the University of Law. She's also recently finished her LPC and MSc in Law, Business and Management with the University of Law.



Oliver James

Oliver joined Porter Dodson in July 2024 having graduated from Cardiff University with a BA in History in 2023, and a Graduate Diploma in Law in 2024. He is currently in his third seat in the Private Client team as a Trainee Solicitor, having spent the previous 14 months in the Residential Property team alongside studying for his Solicitors' Qualifying Exams.



Sophia Edwards

Sophia started her Porter Dodson career as a Paralegal in the Probate, Tax and Trusts team after graduating from King's College London with a Law LLB degree. She studied for her Solicitors' Qualifying Exams whilst working part time, before commencing her training contract with the firm in September 2025.



Theo Brent

Theo joined Porter Dodson in June 2025 after completing an undergraduate degree in Law with Politics at Cardiff University. Prior to commencing his training contract, Theo worked in the Private Client team, assisting in the administration of Trusts. He is currently studying for the Solicitors' Qualifying Exams alongside the first seat of his training contract in the Residential Property team.