## **Rachael Ward**

## Director, Child Law, DCJ Legal, Law Reform & Legal Services, Communities and Justice

Rachael Ward completed her Bachelor of Law degree at Western Sydney University in 2001 and was admitted as a solicitor in 2003. As Director of Child Law within the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), she leads the Child Protection practice team responsible for a wide range of work relating to the care and protection of children, including litigation, advocacy and advice in care and protection matters, and statutory interpretation and advice. Prior to her current role, she worked for Legal Aid NSW and JPM Legal and as Litigation Manager at the DCJ. In 2022, Rachael provided the NSW State Parliament with a statement offering evidence for the Inquiry into the Child Protection and Social Services System, clarifying the intersections between child protection services provided by the NSW Government and family law proceedings governed by the Commonwealth. Rachael is a member of the Children's Legal Issues Committee of the Law Society of NSW.

