

Hewitsons has a proud history of acting on behalf of many organisations and individuals who are active in the field of education. Such clients include independent and academy schools, universities, further education colleges, education charities and parents.

We recognise that our education clients require a wide range of legal services relating to the operation of organisations, including regulatory issues, constitutional matters, employment, corporate issues, property matters and disputes as well as specifically education-related issues.

Our Education Group is composed of partners and solicitors from various teams within the firm who undertake work for education clients. The Group draws together the expertise that working in this area requires. The Group meets to discuss developments in the education sector and changes in relevant areas of law.

We are happy to discuss with clients how we can be of assistance in providing training to staff involved in many areas of their activities including: trustees, governors, managers and those involved in the commercial operation of the organisation.

We offer advice and assistance to education clients in many areas, including:

- Regulation of independent schools, including issues of public benefit.
- Mergers of educational institutions.
- Charitable regulation, including registration and dealings with the Charity Commission.
- Creation of or conversion to academy school, including the preparation of constitutional and funding documents.

- Governance, including appointment and resignation of trustees and governors.
- Charitable company matters, including preparation of articles of association, advice on directors' duties, company secretarial services.
- Data protection.
- Establishment of "spin-off" companies for universities and commercial exploitation of research.
- Full range of property services, including acquisitions and disposals, advice on property portfolios.
- Major construction projects, including capital refurbishment projects for campus developments.
- Preparation and review of contracts with parents and school terms and conditions.
- Outsourcing of services by educational establishments, such as cleaning and catering services.
- Contracts for the hiring of premises.



- Employment matters, including “day to day” advice, as well as employment tribunal proceedings in all areas, such as unfair dismissal claims, race, disability and sex discrimination (including equal pay claims).
- Advising on safeguarding of pupils and vulnerable adults.
- Admission and expulsion of pupils.
- Pursuing unpaid school fees.
- Disputes between education providers and suppliers or other third parties.
- Advice to grant-making bodies in relation to the exercise of their functions.
- Statutory funding regime for the education of detained young people.
- Advice to students and parents on aspects of education, including admission appeals and disputes with providers.

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We pride ourselves on delivering an outstanding service to a wide range of individuals, businesses and institutions including charities, educational and sports bodies. The firm’s size and breadth of specialisms means each client receives the focus it requires. We operate UK wide and have worldwide reach via our network of independent law firms, LawExchange International.

This document is written as an outline guide only and any action should not be based solely on the information given here. Appropriate professional advice should always be taken in specific instances.

Hewitsons LLP is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority.