

How can we help you?

Trusted advisers to higher education institutions

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Russell-Cooke has real strength and depth. They provide commercial and practical advice promptly and efficiently.

The Legal 500

Russell-Cooke is a **top 100 law firm** with around **250 lawyers**, many of whom are leaders in their field. Our multi-disciplinary team has experience advising higher education institutions on a wide range of legal matters.

Our expertise

Higher education faces ever greater challenges in a complex legal and regulatory world, whilst needing to be ever more competitive. We work closely with universities, colleges and sector bodies to provide tailored, senior-level legal advice across a broad range of issues. As a long-established, full-service law firm, we pride ourselves on building trusted relationships and delivering pragmatic solutions. We have experience of advising on some of the most complex and high-profile disputes, and undertake a full range of transactional work, advising on:

- public law
- employment law
- governance
- Equality Act 2010 and discrimination claims
- service-level disputes
- property
- charity and not-for-profit law
- commercial law
- data protection law

Our specialists



Richard Wilkins

Legal director and barrister

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Richard specialises in higher education disputes, advising on student discipline, fitness to practise, Equality Act 2010 claims, service delivery and governance. He has acted in landmark sector cases and a major OIA group claim. He supports institutions with complex disputes and regulatory issues, including the public sector equality duty, and delivers sector-focused training.



Jeremy Coy

Senior associate

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Jeremy and the employment team advise the higher education sector on a wide range of issues, including Employment Tribunal and High Court litigation, disciplinary processes, grievances, whistleblowing and redundancy. Jeremy has particular experience in sensitive senior-level matters, including discrimination and pay disputes, and is skilled in negotiating favourable exits.