

Staying on top of IP

Protecting and commercialising
your Intellectual Property



The Eversheds Sutherland Service

Your IP is a crucial asset. In these challenging times, we can help you protect and leverage the maximum value out of your IP against the diverse objectives of commercialisation and your charitable obligations.

We have numerous years of experience in advising academic institutions and are able to operate in all areas of IP across the full lifecycle.

We combine over 100 experienced IP lawyers in offices across the globe including Paris, Berlin, Brussels, Madrid, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Dubai, Hong Kong, UK, USA and mainland China.

Our aim is always to provide commercial and practical advice and to work extremely closely with you to ensure we add value to the services we provide.



our project management approach means that all work is thoroughly scoped, planned and costed upfront. This enables us to understand what our clients want and to provide greater predictability when it comes to price, timescale and outcome



we regularly advise education clients on all aspects of commercial activities and help maximise assets through exploitation of intellectual property



we have all the knowledge you need: contract principles, early questions to consider, understanding what IP may be generated, who owns and how to protect background IP, contract considerations regarding IP, collaborative agreements to exploit IP, finance/maintaining value of portfolio and related issues such as competition law



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IP disputes:

We will work with you on minimising the risks of disputes. Our ability to act practically and strategically means that matters very rarely need to go to court. However, we also have major trial experience across all areas of IP, so we can work with you to bring or defend claims if it is in your interests to do so.

Our international IP team combines a wealth of experience in resolving trade mark, copyright, patent, internet and design right disputes. We can help you avoid and defuse the risks posed by IP infringement claims, managing cases in a cost-effective way.



We provide advice on IP issues arising in the education sector, including:

- importance of IP for institutions
- generation and ownership of IP
- balancing factors such as confidentiality, recognition, commercial exploitation, publication, academic and charitable objectives
- R&D/collaboration agreements
- student policies & impact of consumer law
- employment/consultancy contracts
- lecture capture advice
- IP protection strategy
- template agreements
- licences and rights to use IP, including terms of permitted activities, purpose, duration and geographic scope

We understand the need to successfully commercialise your IP:

- preparing to commercialise – matters to consider and approaches
- sector themes, including government policy, industry partners and collaborations
- collaboration structure
- alignment of parties' strategies and aims, along with potential conflicts of interest
- division of roles, rights and responsibilities
- identification and countering of legal and practical risks
- spin out transactions
- licensing agreements, sub-licensing, royalties and audits
- remuneration and compensation
- sector specific IP issues, e.g. involving charities and where academics are not always employees/scholarly works
- infringement of IP, warranties and liability
- post-signing actions and obligations
- termination of agreements



Never waffled over an answer and never didn't know an answer. Was responsive at all hours of the day, the night and the weekend and was very, very practical. Has deep knowledge, excellent customer service and gets it done. That is everything. Honestly, we would be at a loss to point out anything that was negative. We may be suffering from the halo effect, but the performance was flawless.

Client comment on Rupert Bent



Rupert Bent

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Peers and clients alike wax lyrical about this ubiquitous force in the education market. Regarded as the primary player in the field, clients laud 'a comprehensive service, extensive networks, highly ethical and professional people', whilst others observe: "It treats us as an important client; we receive tailored service and regular client review meetings". "Well versed in transaction and governance matters, as well as public-private partnership work. Provides national and international reach, advising universities on the potential impact of Brexit and the establishment of overseas campuses".

Chambers and Partners Directory



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Lisa has been described as "well respected in the area of IP litigation" and "a key contact in the Nottingham Office".

Legal 500



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Eversheds is the largest provider of legal services to the higher education (HE) and further education (FE) sector and with its 'vast spread of resources, deep experience and terrific reputation', it is highly regarded across the country.

Education, Chambers and Partners



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