

Education

Overview

Our dedicated team of Education lawyers is unique in Ireland. We provide tailored advice on every aspect of law in this sector. Our clients in the education sector include primary schools, secondary schools, universities, technology institutes and other third level colleges and educational establishments.

Our Team



Ian O'Herlihy
*Partner, Head of
Employment Law &
Benefits*

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Ian is Head of our Employment Law & Benefits Group and Education Units. Ian has over 20 years' experience specialising in both contentious and non-contentious employment law issues in the education and healthcare sectors and has been involved in almost all the leading education employment cases in recent years. He advises a broad range of clients on drafting and reviewing workplace procedure and employment contracts, on dealings with trade unions and professional organisations and advises widely on investigation of complaints and the conduct of disciplinary investigations and hearings.



Liam Riordan
Partner

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Liam is a Partner in the Education Unit of the Employment Law & Benefits Group. Liam practices in the area of education law. He has extensive experience in advising first, second and third level educational institutions on the wide range of issues that arise from the day to day interaction of teachers, students, parents and management. Liam has represented Boards of Management at the Employment Appeals Tribunal, the Labour Court, the Labour Relations Commission and the Equality Tribunal as well as in the civil courts up to and including the Supreme Court.

*Dublin, London
& New York*





Catherine Kelly
Senior Associate

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Catherine is a Senior Associate in the Education Unit of the Employment Law & Benefits Group. She is involved in all aspects of contentious and non-contentious employment law on both the employer and employee side and is regularly involved in employment related civil actions including unfair dismissal claims, injunctions, actions for breach of contract, employer liability claims and personal injury actions for stress and bullying, including cyber-bullying. She is an experienced litigator in relation to both plaintiffs and defendant proceedings and regularly appears before the High and Circuit Courts as well as the Equality Tribunal, Labour Court, the Labour Relations Commission and the Employment Appeals Tribunal.



Christine West
Senior Associate

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Christine is a Senior Associate in the Education Unit of the Employment Law & Benefits Group. She advises clients in the education sector at primary, secondary and tertiary level, on a wide range of employment-related matters. These include recruitment of teachers, SNAs and ancillary staff, conduct of disciplinary hearings, dismissal, equality and discrimination, risk management, privacy and data protection and compliance with both statutory and common law duties. Christine also advises educational institutions in relation to admissions, suspensions and expulsions, child protection, bullying and dealing with complaints of staff and parents.



Edel Kennedy
Associate

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Edel is an Associate in the Education Unit of the Employment Law & Benefits Group. Edel advises a range of educational institutions on all aspects of employment law, relating to both contentious and non-contentious matters. She advises on everyday workplace issues in the education sector, including bullying, harassment, disciplinary procedures and equality matters. Edel has represented Boards of Management before all employment related fora. Edel has experience of dealing with statutory bodies such as the HSE and the Ombudsman for Children and advising educational institutions how best to engage with these bodies when complaints are made.

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