

Matilda Heselton

Associate (FCILEx Advocate)

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Matilda is one of few Chartered Legal Executives nationally to have gained Advocate status and is based within our barristers' team. Matilda has extensive experience in investigating allegations of professional misconduct and receives instructions on a variety of hearings, particularly which have a connection to the education sector.

Matilda has been with Browne Jacobson since 2014, during which time she has predominately undertaken work on behalf of the teaching regulator for England, the Teaching Regulation Agency (formally the National College for Teaching and Leadership). Matilda acts in the capacity of Presenting Officer and Investigating Officer, in addition to being appointed as a supervisor in respect of the investigations for the Teaching Regulation Agency. Matilda is known for her thorough preparation and pragmatic approach to cases and is regularly involved with the most sensitive cases, including those that involve vulnerable witnesses and historical abuse.

Matilda is also instructed on matters which are heard in the County Court and the First-Tier Tribunal (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber), having experience of both Educational, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) appeals in addition to discrimination claims.

Expertise

Academy trusts and schools

Central government

Higher education institutions and universities

Independent health and care

Insurance

Local government

NHS acute trusts

NHS mental and community health trusts

Featured experience

LM v Education Trust

Representing an education trust in a discrimination claim which resulted in the entirety of the claim, consisting of three events, being dismissed.

TRA v PL 2021

Successfully prosecuting a teacher of sexual activity with a former pupil taking place over ten years prior to the hearing, resulting in the teacher receiving a Prohibition Order with no review period.

TRA v SS 2021

Preventing a teacher from setting aside their Prohibition Order and subsequent Order issued preventing the teacher reapplying for a further three years, significantly exceeding the minimum period of one year.

TRA v YS 2022

Preparing evidence to support sexual allegations against a teacher dated in 1980s and 2018 and providing witness support prior to the hearing. Despite the allegations dated in 2018 relying on only hearsay evidence, a Prohibition Order with no review was made.