

Education transactions.

Our experience in the
Education sector

VWV 



Are you considering...

- Acquiring or selling?
- Merging schools?
- Bolting on a new division?
- Joint venture arrangements?
- Franchising overseas?
- Investing in the Early Years, K12, FE or HE sectors?

Why choose VWV?

Our USP is our total immersion in and commitment to the education sector, so we have a complete understanding of the commercial significance of the deals that we work on and the regulatory environment which applies.

Our award winning Education Transactions team advises on more education sector transactions than any other law firm. That experience and expertise means that we are well-placed to work with you to ensure that your transaction completes successfully.

For a confidential conversation, please contact Robert Collier on 07769 696 075 or Barney Northover on 07973 423 081





Recent deals (2025/26).

Client	Project
Canford School	Merger with Dumpton School
Chafyn Grove School	Disposal to United Learning
Charterhouse School	Merger with Windlesham House School
Claire's Court School	Disposal to LTC Education Group
Clayesmore School	Disposal to Inspired Learning Group
Framlingham College	Merger with The Mill Hill Schools Foundation
Galaxy Global Education Group	Acquisition of Plymouth College
Harrow School	Merger with Lockers Park School
Heathfield School	Merger with The Mill Hill Schools Foundation
Hoe Bridge School	Merger with Greenfields School
Kingham Hill School	Merger with The Dean Close Foundation
Lancing College	Merger with Dorset House House/Bury Manor Pre-School
Lochinver House School	Merger with Haberdashers' Elstree Schools
Malvern Education Limited	Acquisition of Malvern St James
Millfield Nurseries Ltd	Acquisition of Dolphins Childcare Centre
Outcomes First Group (Blenheim Schools)	Acquisition of Mount House School
Outcomes First Group (Blenheim Schools) School	Acquisition of Oxford Montessori School Limited
Palmer's Green High School	Merger with St. Alban's High School for Girls

Client	Project
Prince's Mead School	Merger with The King Edward VI School
Royal Grammar School, Newcastle	Merger with Westfield School
Royal Hospital School	Disposal to Inspired Learning Group
Rugby School Group	Acquisition of Aysgarth School
Rugby School Group	Acquisition of Old Buckenham School
Sevenoaks School	Merger with Bickley Park School
Sevenoaks School	Merger with Solefield School
Sherborne Girls' School	Merger with Sherborne School
Shrewsbury House School	Sale of pre-prep building
Shrewsbury School	Merger with Terra Nova School
St Albans School	Merger with Beechwood Park School
St Christopher's School and Nursery	Merger with The Reigate Grammar School
St Dunstan's Education Group	Merger with West Lodge School
St Paul's School	Merger with Shrewsbury House School and Durston House
Stowe School	Merger with Ashfold School
The Dean Close Foundation	Acquisition of Polly's Nursery
Westbrook Hay School	Merger with The Mill Hill Schools Foundation
West Hill Park School	Merger with Prep School Trust
Winchester College	Merger with The Pilgrims' School



Matters completed earlier.

Mergers, acquisitions and disposals. Acting for:

Abbott's Hill School in relation to its merger with The Mill Hill School Foundation

Beeston Hall School in relation to its merger with the Prep Schools Trust

Bellevue Education and its shareholder group in relation to its sale to GEMS

Blackheath Prep in relation to its merger with Eltham College

Bradfield College in relation to its merger with St. Andrew's School

Charterhouse in relation to its merger with Edgeborough School

Clifton College in relation to its acquisition of the English Language Centre

Clifton College in relation to its merger with Tockington Manor School

Cobham Hall in relation to its merger with The Mill Hill School Foundation

Concept Education in relation to its acquisition of The Marist School

Coworth-Flexlands School in relation to its merger with United Learning

Derby Grammar School in relation to its sale to Inspired Learning Group

Durham Cathedral Choir School in relation to its merger with Durham School

Education in Motion in relation to its acquisition of Sherfield School (from GEMS)

Exeter School in relation to its acquisition of New School, Exeter

Francis Holland School in relation to its acquisition of the Hampshire School (from GEMS)

Globeducate (acting as co-counsel) in relation to the acquisition of Boundary Oak (from Quo Vadis)

Harvington Preparatory School in relation to its merger with Durston House

Harvington School in relation to its merger with Durston School

Inspired Education (as co-counsel) in relation to its acquisition of My Online Schooling

King's Bruton in relation to its merger with Bruton Girls School

King's Ely Kingshott School in relation to its merger with Fairstead House School

Lyonsdown School in relation to its merger with The Mill Hill School Foundation

Manor House School Little Bookham in relation to its merger with Effingham Schools Trust

Micklefield School in relation to its merger with Reigate Grammar School

Monkton Combe School in relation to its merger with All Hallows School

Moreton Hall School in relation to its sale to YC Education/Ascend International Education Group

New Beacon School in relation to its merger with Tonbridge School



Matters completed earlier cont.

Mergers, acquisitions and disposals. Acting for:

Prebendal School in relation to its sale to Alpha Schools

Rookwood School in relation to its sale to Inspired Learning Group

Rugby School in relation to its merger with Bilton Grange

Rupert House School in relation to its sale to Wishford Schools Group

Ruthin School in relation to its sale to Ruthin Education Limited

Sherborne Girls School in relation to its merger with Hanford School

Shrewsbury School in relation to its merger with Packwood Haugh School

St Albans High School for Girls in relation to its merger with Stormont School

St Andrew's School, Woking in relation to its merger with Halstead School

St David's, Purley in relation to its merger with The Russell School

St Dunstan's School in relation to its merger with Christopher Hall School

St Francis College in relation to its sale to Inspired Learning Group

St Joseph's-in-the-Park in relation to its merger with The Mill Hill School Foundation

Stowe School in relation to the three-way merger with Winchester House and Swanbourne House

Sunninghill Prep School in relation to its sale to Inspired Learning Group

Survall Education Limited in relation to its acquisition of Webber Independent School (from GEMS)

The governors of Collingwood School in relation to the sale of The Park School for Girls, Ilford (closed site)

The Park School in relation to the sale of The Park School for Girls, Ilford (closed site)

The proprietor of The Kindergartens on the sale of the business to Dukes Education

The proprietors of Broomfield House School in relation to its sale to Dukes Education

The proprietors of Broadway Education on the disposal of St. Michael's School and Bosworth Independent College to Bright Scholar

The proprietors of Chiswick & Bedford Park School in relation to its sale to Dukes Education

The proprietors of Fulham Prep School on its sale to Educas/Reddam House

The Red Maids' School on its merger with Redland High School for Girls

Thetford Grammar School Foundation in relation to the sale of Thetford Grammar School to Access (UK) Education Group

THI Investments in relation to the embedded college section of Oxford International and the Corndel apprenticeship business

United Learning in relation to its merger with The Royal School, Haslemere



Matters completed earlier cont.

Mergers, acquisitions and disposals. Acting for:

United Learning in relation to the sale of Princess Helena College (closed site)

Vinehall in relation to its merger with Repton School

Warlingham Park School on its sale to Inspired Learning Group

Werton Group Ltd in relation to its acquisition of Woodside Gan Nursery

Wisbech Grammar School on its sale to an overseas investor

Wychwood School in relation to its joint venture with E3 Capital



International projects.

Providing advice on the following projects:

Bedford School International Limited in India

King's College School, Wimbledon in relation to projects in Wuxi and elsewhere in China

Rugby School International Limited in Nigeria, Japan and Thailand

The Mill Hill School Foundation in Thailand

Charterhouse International Limited in Nigeria

Kings School, Canterbury (International) in Cambodia and China

Sherborne Schools Worldwide Limited in the MENA Region. Including: Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen

The Perse School Cambridge International Limited in Singapore and Oman

Cranleigh Education Services Limited in Abu Dhabi, China and Bahrain

Malvern College International Limited in Saudi Arabia, China, Japan and Switzerland

Ellesmere College International Limited in Oman

RGS Guildford International Limited in India

Shrewsbury School in relation to Bangkok, City Campus and Shrewsbury School Huangpu, Guangzhou

Plus confidential deals in:

USA · Canada · Kazakhstan · India · UAE · Vietnam · Mexico · Nigeria · Egypt · Oman · South Korea · Saudi Arabia · Thailand · Sri Lanka · China · Japan · Brazil · Singapore

Meet the team.

Transactions



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Testimonials.

We are focussed on meeting and exceeding our clients' expectations.

Clients and directories (Chambers & Partners & Legal 500)



VWV offer a unique combination of experience, expertise, approachability, attention to detail, judgement, ability to listen and provision of clear advice.

The lawyers at VWV are very responsive, knowledgeable and commercially-focused.

The team are recognised as leaders in the education field and have the relevant knowledge and experience to handle all matters.

VWV's education team are commercially astute and keep up to speed with trends and moves in the independent school sector - they are therefore able to provide relevant and up-to-date advice to clients.

They understand the context and have the ability to drill down to get the information required to give very sound advice. All aspects are considered so you would be aware of any dangers or impacts of actions.

With VWV, it genuinely did feel as though we had the very strongest of teams on our side, and this served to generate a great deal of comfort and confidence.

The support we received from VWV was absolutely outstanding. It was clear, precise and helped to cut through the issues.

The client service provided by VWV was professional and honest. Their transparency and integrity in dealing with us were particularly impressive.

VWV has a highly respected education team with considerable expertise in sensitive matters, including safeguarding issues. The team regularly provides advice on a range of complex issues faced by independent schools.

VWV provided great bespoke advice, informed by wider sector knowledge.

They have the expertise and capacity to deal with anything we ask. Their knowledge and experience of the education sector has been invaluable.

Testimonials cont.

We are focussed on meeting and exceeding our clients' expectations.

Clients and directories (Chambers & Partners & Legal 500)



The VWV team is knowledgeable and approachable. They are clear in their advice and understand the client's perspective, and are able to offer pragmatic solutions as well as the purely legal view.

The team draws on the strengths and knowledge of their lawyers to ensure that solutions are approached from a 360-degree angle. Responses from VWV are not only speedy but also accurate and detailed.

Throughout the entire workforce, VWV provides ridiculously high standards in terms of its efficiency.

VWV go the extra mile to liaise and provide a value-for-money service. They're in tune with the current market and can make sense of complex commercial issues.

VWV's team has a broad range of experience, which means that we are confident that any legal query will be dealt with by someone with an understanding of the education sector.

We appreciate the ability of the VWV team to explain complex and legal interpretations. They always respond in a timely manner and rapidly with urgent matters.

They delivered a strong performance and a personalised and sensitive approach, showing a thorough understanding of schools.

A team who 'positively fizz' with enthusiasm and good sense.

The education team at VWV stands out for its strategic and operational expertise and is widely considered a 'market leader in the independent schools sector'. The team is trusted to assist with high-value projects, including major school acquisitions and sales.

An all-round service that is hard to beat.

VWV is quick to respond and finds the right individual with the skills to advise. I always receive straightforward, unbiased advice which clearly sets out any risks.

