



Marsh



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When Disaster Strikes: How a Principal Can Best Manage Claims – The Insurance Perspective

Mark your calendars for **22 July at 5 pm** to join this unmissable live online event designed to help you cope with the unexpected. Join experts Paul Robertson (Heaney & Partners), Gretchen Stone (Harrison Stone), Fi McMillan (Anderson Lloyd), Monica Maharaj (NZI) and Jody Sinclair (Marsh) as they unpack real-life case studies and offer practical strategies to cope with employment-related disputes. This session brings together insurance specialists and legal representatives from principals' organisations to spotlight common pitfalls and how to avoid them. Learn how to respond to a fast-moving employment dispute, how to contact your insurer, and what is and what is not covered. There is no cost, and there is no need to book. Just log in at 5 pm to the website address below. The presentation is expected to take an hour and will cover:

How to notify an insurance claim?

What is and what is not insured?

The most common reasons for insurance claims being denied.

The most common employment claims.

What resources are available?

An example of what we will discuss. What would you do?

Mitch, the PE teacher, is boisterous and is liable to 'fly off the handle'.

You are wary of Mitch and take no action to encourage him to be less combative.

Mitch has a confrontation with his HOD. The HOD claims she was only providing appropriate feedback about Mitch's classroom teaching.

Both Mitch and the HOD complain about each other.

You propose a program of advice and guidance for Mitch due to his behaviour.

Mitch's union advocate strongly resists this proposal, arguing that Mitch's behaviour has never been criticised before and that he is being unfairly treated, when the HOD is at fault.

Both Mitch and the HOD raise personal grievances: Mitch claims he is being singled out by being placed on the advice and guidance program despite not being at fault, while the HOD says that her complaint against Mitch was ignored and that Mitch is threatening her.

PRESENTERS

Paul Robertson | Partner | Heaney & Partners



Paul is an experienced solicitor who is regularly called in to assist when a claim is made against a school. After studying at Otago University and working in Wellington and then in England, Paul joined the law firm of Heaney & Co (as it was then called) in 1997. Paul has considerable experience in the litigation and insurance arenas and regularly appears in the High Court, the Court of Appeal, the Employment Relations Authority and the Employment Court.

In addition to his extensive common law experience in relation to commercial disputes, Paul heads the firm's employment liability team. He advises employers in relation to disputes with employees and general employment relations issues. Paul acts on behalf of the insurers of most schools in New Zealand as well as for societies and clubs, health professionals, solicitors and other employers.

Fi McMillan | Special Counsel | Anderson Lloyd



Fi McMillan is Special Counsel at Anderson Lloyd, specialising in employment and education law. Prior to becoming a lawyer Fi worked as a primary school teacher in New Zealand and in the UK and completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Child Advocacy. She has also worked on several school Boards, and on the Board of Knox and Salmond College.

Fi is the legal advisor for the NZPF Principals' Advice and Support Scheme (PASL), advising principals across New Zealand on matters affecting their employment.

Gretchen Stone | Partner | Harrison Stone



Gretchen Stone has practiced as a lawyer since 1997 and initially worked in the corporate and commercial area. Since 2002 Gretchen has specialised in employment and education law. As well as providing legal advice to SPANZ principals, Gretchen is the Honorary Solicitor for the Auckland Primary Principals' Association and acts for a number of schools and businesses. Gretchen has served as a Board member of primary and secondary schools for many years and is currently on the Board of Waiheke High School and the Board of Proprietors of Lindisfarne College.

Gretchen has expertise across all areas of employment and education law including health and safety, media and social media, student discipline, surrender and retention, governance issues, restructuring processes, and performance management and disciplinary processes for professional and non-professional staff. Gretchen frequently presents at education law conferences and provides training to Boards and senior leadership teams on all areas of employment and education law.

Monica Maharaj | Liability Claims Manager | NZI



Monica is a Liability Claims Manager at IAG / NZI, the insurers of the MOE insurance scheme. She has been involved with the MOE Scheme since 2006. Prior to that Monica worked as a lawyer both in private practice and in-house specialising in litigation and employment law.

Jody Sinclair | Client Executive | Marsh



Marsh is the insurance broker for the MOE insurance scheme and Jody is the person with day-to-day responsibility for claims.

With 17 years of experience in the insurance industry, Jody Sinclair is a dedicated insurance broker who has specialised in providing tailored insurance solutions for schools across New Zealand for the past five years. Her passion lies in helping educational institutions navigate the complexities of insurance, offering expert advice designed to protect their resources and enhance operational resilience.

Jody's extensive knowledge of education insurance, combined with her commitment to fostering long-lasting relationships with clients, ensures that schools receive personalised service and support. She is actively involved in all aspects of insurance for schools, including the Ministry of Education (MoE) School Buildings Insurance, MoE Risk Management Scheme Package, and School Overcode Insurance. Her ability to collaborate with the Ministry of Education while managing a large portfolio of Overcode insurance has established her as an expert in the school insurance sector.



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<https://vimeo.com/event/5221528/405da0b168>

<https://bit.ly/PrincipalClaims>



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