

Mishcon Academy

# The GC Academy

An accelerated learning programme for  
emerging GCs

In partnership with



**Are you looking to shortly move into the position of GC? Have you recently been appointed as GC for the first time? Or are you already a GC and want to feel more equipped for the role?**

### **Join the GC Academy**

A practical learning programme to equip you with the tools, skills and network to manage a legal function within a fast-growing company and develop your leadership skills. The programme is tailored for those who need to quickly acquire a comprehensive set of skills to effectively manage a legal function. This will also create a vital cohort of likeminded individuals who can troubleshoot problems with structured group coaching.

We will utilise the Mishcon de Reya legal faculty, executive coaches, leading GC's and our Mishcon Academy learning experts.

# What is the GC Academy

**The GC Academy offers a comprehensive and interactive learning experience across four inter linked modules. In total the programme will stretch across four months with a half-day learning hosted in London each month. Each module is structured as follows and commitment will be a full day per month, broken up into the following:**

- 1. Pre-reading and study materials per module.**
- 2. A live half-day module in-person in London.**
- 3. Group coaching session to embed learning.**
- 4. A follow-up practical exercise to help put learning into practice.**

## **Modules**

Delivered in person, the interaction session covers four areas.

### **1. Financial literacy and the key metrics to measure success**

This module enhances your financial literacy and ensures that you can demonstrate how the legal team adds value to the company.

You will learn to:

- Understand the P&L and Balance Sheet of your business
- Become familiar with the financial language surrounding financial statements
- Gain insights from a CEO/CFO about how they measure legal performance and which metrics they prioritise
- Develop a clear set of KPIs and metrics to measure the legal team's success from a financial perspective

### **2. The role of legal ops to improve the delivery of legal services**

This module explores how to implement and develop your legal ops strategy to enhance the delivery of legal services.

You will learn to:

- Understand how legal ops can improve the delivery of legal services and where to focus your efforts
- Design a legal ops strategy appropriate for your organisation, considering current resources and success metrics
- Optimise allocation of legal spend and manage external law firm relationships to maximize the legal team's effectiveness
- Develop an agile legal ops strategy that scales with the planned growth of the business

### 3. LegalTech for strategic impact

This module helps you identify where technology can drive strategic impact and the confidence to select and implement new technology in your organisation.

You will learn to:

- Deepen your understanding of the LegalTech landscape and the different ways technology is being used within a Legal function.
- Prioritise challenges worth solving and assess the real need for technology solutions.
- Engage effectively with vendors to increase the chances of successful collaboration.
- Develop a playbook for how to pilot and buy new technology, and measure ROI.

### 4. Becoming a leader

This module supports you in shaping your leadership style as you transition into a senior leadership role.

You will learn to:

- Explore your individual leadership preferences and reflect on how to interact with others
- Manage time effectively to prioritise and action your leadership style
- Link board strategy to day-to-day operations, acting as the axis and translator of legal strategy
- Prepare a Personal Progress Plan outlining why, what, and how to implement your own leadership approach

# Dates and timings

## Cohort 2:

- **Module 1: Wednesday 10 September**
- **Module 2: Thursday 25 September**
- **Module 3: Thursday 23 October**
- **Module 4: Wednesday 5 November**

The timing for each module is 12.45 to 17.30.

Plus the end of programme dinner, Thursday 27 November from 18.30  
Venue: The Ivy, Covent Garden.

- **Module 1 Coaching: Wednesday 17 September 2025**
- **Module 2 Coaching: Wednesday 1 October 2025**
- **Module 3 Coaching: Wednesday 29 October 2025**
- **Module 4 Coaching: Wednesday 12 November 2025**

Timing for the coaching sessions is either 11:30 – 12:15 or 13:00 – 13:45.

You will only be required for one session per module, and timing will be confirmed as part of the live module.

## Cohort 3:

- **Module 1: Thursday 22 January, 2026**
- **Module 2: Thursday 12 February 2026**
- **Module 3: Thursday 5 March 2026**
- **Module 4: Tuesday 24 March 2026**

The timing for each module is 12.45 to 17.30.

Plus the end of programme dinner, Thursday 30 April 2026 from 18.30.  
Venue: The Ivy, Covent Garden

- **Module 1 Coaching: Wednesday 28 January 2026**
- **Module 2 Coaching: Wednesday 18 February 2026**
- **Module 3 Coaching: Wednesday 11 March 2026**
- **Module 4 Coaching: Wednesday 1 April 2026**

Timing for the coaching sessions is either 11:30 – 12:15 or 13:00 – 13:45.

You will only be required for one session per module, and timing will be confirmed as part of the live module.

# In partnership with

## [Flex Legal](#)

Flex Legal started with a simple question: what if busy legal teams could instantly connect with the lawyers and paralegals they need? Fast forward seven years, Flex is doing exactly that, and is now one of the UK's fastest growing companies.

## [Visit Flex Legal](#)



## [MDR Lab](#)

MDR Lab incubates and invests in the most promising early stage LegalTech companies. With a mission to bridge the gap between 'Law' and 'Technology', MDR Lab has helped over 30+ early-stage startups to transform the way legal services are delivered.

## [Visit MDR Lab](#)



Part of the Mishcon de Reya Group



# Who leads the programme



## Mary Bonsor, Founder Flex Legal

Mary is the founder of Flex Legal. Previously, she worked as a property litigation solicitor at a City law firm and now spends most of her time meeting with new clients and focusing on Flex Legal's vision. She loves hearing people's stories and career journeys.



## Patrick Connolly, Academy Director Mishcon De Reya

Patrick is the Director of the firm's Academy. The Academy is Mishcon de Reya's in-house place of learning, a driver for growth and a platform for thought leadership. He oversees the strategic direction of the Academy which includes creating university quality education for everyone at the firm and publishing market-leading research.



## Dan Sinclair, Head of Early-Stage Strategy, MDR Lab

Dan oversees a series of programmes that incubate and invest in early-stage startups in the legal space. Dan also leads the Firm's engagement with startups and the wider ecosystem of investors and strategic partners, and leads on a number of investment and growth projects.



## Ashley Williams, Partner, Mishcon De Reya

Ashley Williams is a Partner and co-leads Mishcon de Reya's Technology Transactions Group. He is a technology lawyer specialising in non-contentious technology and data protection matters. He works with high-growth tech companies and multinational corporations, helping them exploit technology assets and navigate data protection issues.



## Hugh Tebay, Partner, Mishcon de Reya

Hugh is a Partner in the Innovation department and part of the Commercial, Technology, Data and Sport team. He is an experienced commercial technology lawyer, with specialist expertise in the commercialisation of intellectual property rights and IP strategy. Hugh works with clients of varying sizes: from start-ups / spinouts, through SMEs to multinationals.



## Christian Papworth, Academy Manager, Mishcon de Reya

Christian Papworth's career spans chartered accountancy (Deloitte, 2007), education roles at Kaplan (2010-2018) specialising in financial management and strategy, First Intuition (2018-2021) where he led apprenticeship programmes, and currently Mishcon de Reya's Academy (2021-present). He specialises in technology education, holds University of London Recognised Tutor status, and focuses on AI initiatives as an executive coach and facilitator.



## Toby McCrindle, Partner, Mishcon de Reya

Toby is a Partner in the Technology team in the Innovation department. He is an experienced technology, commercial contracts, and scale up lawyer who has specialisms in deeptech, defence tech and space. He specialises in supporting innovative, high growth, and mature technology businesses, providing advice to founders and their boards as they scale their company.

# Booking

All sessions take place at Mishcon de Reya in London with each cohort limited to 25 participants. When all places are full, a waiting list will be set up for further cohorts.

The price is £5,000 plus VAT. The price for the programme is structured to build a lasting partnership as you and your team develop.

To establish a long-term relationship, this fee will act as credit for legal services with Mishcon de Reya or accessing legal talent via Flex Legal from your payment date until the end of the programme.

Please visit the website for more booking details or to register your interest.



**If you have any questions we'd love to hear from you.  
Contact us at [gcacademy@f-lex.co.uk](mailto:gcacademy@f-lex.co.uk) and we'll respond promptly.**



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