## ANNEXURE 1

# SUPREME COURT OF VICTORIA



# NOTICE TO GROUP MEMBERS: COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDING AND OPT OUT

# G8 EDUCATION LIMITED SHAREHOLDER CLASS ACTION (GROUP PROCEEDING)

PAUL ALLEN v G8 EDUCATION LTD (S ECI 2020 4339)

# THIS NOTICE IS SENT BY ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF VICTORIA.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY BECAUSE IT MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS.

# NOTICE TO GROUP MEMBERS: COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDING AND OPT OUT

## PAUL ALLEN v G8 EDUCATION LTD (S ECI 2020 4339)

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## WHY HAVE YOU RECEIVED THIS NOTICE?

- The Supreme Court of Victoria has ordered that you receive this Notice because according to information contained in the share register of G8 Education Ltd (G8) you may be a Group Member in this class action. In most cases, you are automatically a Group Member if you purchased shares in G8 between 23 May 2017 and 23 February 2018 (inclusive) (this is called the Claim Period) and you have suffered a loss by reason of the conduct alleged against G8 in the class action.
- If you believe you may be a Group Member because you meet the above description, you should read this Notice carefully as it will affect your rights. If there is anything in this Notice that you do not understand, you should seek legal advice.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT THIS CLASS ACTION**

- 3. This class action has been brought by Paul Allen, who purchased shares in G8 during the Claim Period. Mr Allen brings the action on his own behalf and on behalf of all Group Members who have suffered loss by reason of the conduct alleged against G8.
- 4. This class action claims that G8 made misleading representations and failed to comply with its continuous disclosure obligations as an ASX-listed company, in breach of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and the *ASIC Act 2001* (Cth).
- 5. The class action alleges that because of G8's conduct, persons who purchased shares in G8 between 23 May 2017 and 23 February 2018 (inclusive) paid more for those shares than they would have paid had G8 complied with its obligations. The class action also alleges that some Group Members would not have purchased those shares if G8 had complied with its obligations.
- 6. G8 denies the claims made against it in the class action, and is defending the class action.
- 7. Information about how the class action is being funded is on pages 6-8 of this Notice. You can obtain further information about the Court proceeding (and get any copies of relevant documents) by visiting <u>the Supreme Court website</u>.

## **YOUR THREE OPTIONS**

8. The purpose of this Notice is to advise you that this proceeding has been commenced and to notify you of your three options, which are explained below.

## **OPTION A - OPT OUT AND CEASE TO BE A GROUP MEMBER**

- If you do not want your rights determined by this class action <u>you must opt</u> <u>out</u> by 20 August 2021.
- 10. Group members who opt out will:
  - cease to be Group Members in the class action;
  - not be bound by the outcome of the class action and will not receive any money from the class action if it succeeds or settles;
  - be able to commence their own court proceedings against G8 if they wish, provided they commence those proceedings within the time limits applicable to their claims.
- 11. There is a copy of the Opt-Out Form for you to complete at the end of this Notice.
- 12. If you wish to opt out, you must complete an Opt-Out Form and return it to the Commercial Court Registry of the Supreme Court of Victoria by emailing it to <u>commercialcourt@supcourt.vic.gov.au</u>, or alternatively by mailing the Form to: Commercial Court Registry, Supreme Court of Victoria, Ground Floor, 450 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000, in either case before 4:00pm on Friday 20 August 2021.
- 13. If you are unsure how opting out will affect your rights, you should seek legal advice before opting out.

## **OPTION B - DO NOTHING**

14. Group Members who do not opt out by 20 August 2021 will remain in the class action and their rights will be determined by the outcome of the class action – whether it is settled or decided by the Court.

15. You do not have to do anything at all, at this time, to remain in the class action. In the future, the court may notify you that you are required to take a step to register your interest in the proceeding, for example, if there is a settlement or proposed settlement of the proceeding or a final decision by the Court. You have the option to register now, if you wish (Option C).

## OPTION C - REGISTER AS A GROUP MEMBER at <u>www.slatergordon.com.au/g8</u>

- 16. Group Members have the option of registering their details with Slater and Gordon Lawyers, who are acting for the plaintiff. If they choose register, group members will provide:
  - their name;
  - contact details;
  - information about the shares they purchased in G8 between 23 May 2017 and 23 February 2018 (inclusive).
- 17. You may register your claim at <u>www.slatergordon.com.au/g8</u>.
- 18. Registered Group Members will be provided with updates about the class action, by Slater and Gordon Lawyers. Registering will make it possible for your specific claim to be considered if there are settlement negotiations.
- 19. Group Members do not have to register now, but at some point in the future it is likely that you will have to register your interest to receive money in any settlement that may be reached, or if the class action goes to trial and the Court decides in favour of the Group Members. <u>If a settlement is proposed or if the Court finally decides the case, all Group Members (whether or not they have registered) will be notified.</u>
- 20. If you have already registered, you do not need to register again. You have already registered if you have:
  - already provided your name and information about the shares in G8 you bought and sold between 23 May 2017 and 23 February 2018 (inclusive) to Slater and Gordon Lawyers; OR

- already signed an agreement for Slater and Gordon Lawyers to represent you in this class action.
- 21. If you are unsure whether you have already registered your claim, you may contact Slater and Gordon Lawyers using the <u>G8 Class Action website</u> or call the G8 Class Action Hotline on 1800 071 827 to confirm.
- 22. Becoming a Registered Group Member does not mean you enter into any contract for Slater and Gordon Lawyers to represent you.
- 23. If you would like to be represented by Slater and Gordon Lawyers you may contact them using the <u>G8 Class Action website</u> or call the G8 Class Action Hotline on 1800 071 827.

#### **INFORMATION ABOUT HOW THE CLASS ACTION IS BEING FUNDED**

#### No 'out of pocket' costs for group members in this class action

- 24. Group Members are not, and will not be, liable for any legal costs out of their own pocket by remaining in this class action.
- 25. If the class action is <u>unsuccessful</u>, Group Members will not pay any costs.
- 26. If the class action is <u>successful</u> (that is, if any money compensation is recovered from G8), any legal costs that are payable will be deducted from, and will not exceed, the amount of monetary compensation recovered for the Group Members.
- 27. This position will not change, even if the way in which this class action is being paid for changes in the future.

## How the class action is currently being paid for

28. The solicitors running the case on behalf of Mr Allen and the Group Members are Slater and Gordon Lawyers. They have entered into contracts with Mr Allen and some of the Group Members to act on their behalf on a 'no-win-no-fee' basis. Slater and Gordon Lawyers are currently bearing the costs of the class action. This means that while Slater and Gordon Lawyers are conducting the legal work and paying the external costs of the litigation (for example, to barristers and experts), Slater and Gordon Lawyers are not issuing any bills to be paid yet. If the class action is unsuccessful, Slater and Gordon Lawyers have agreed not to seek payment of their bills.

- 29. If the class action is successful, no amounts will be paid to Slater and Gordon Lawyers for the work they have done, unless the Court approves those amounts.
- 30. If the class action is successful Slater and Gordon Lawyers may also apply to the Court to be permitted to charge an 'uplift' fee of no more than 25% of their bills. An uplift fee is not a percentage of the money compensation recovered for Group Members. Instead, it is a percentage of the legal costs approved by the Court. For example, if there was a settlement for \$100,000 and legal bills of \$10,000, then under the contract the lawyers would be permitted to ask the Court to approve the payment of \$12,500, which would include the 25% extra uplift fee.
- 31. This might change in the future. Two different possibilities are set out below.

### How the class action might be paid for differently in the future

- 32. Mr Allen will shortly apply to the Court for an order that the legal costs payable to Slater and Gordon Lawyers be calculated as a percentage of any settlement or judgment sum recovered for Group Members at the end of the proceeding. This is called a Group Costs Order. If the Court makes this order, the liability for payment of the legal costs incurred by Slater and Gordon Lawyers will be shared between Mr Allen and all Group Members, regardless of whether or not those Group Members have entered into contracts with Slater and Gordon Lawyers. The Court cannot approve an extra 'uplift' fee if it has made a Group Costs Order.
- 33. A Group Costs Order would involve one single deduction (for payment to Slater and Gordon Lawyers for the legal work they have undertaken) from any money recovered for Group Members from a settlement or judgment. If a Group Costs Order is made, the law requires Slater and Gordon Lawyers to pay any costs payable to G8 in the proceeding and Slater and Gordon Lawyers

must give any security for the costs of G8 in the proceeding that the Court may order Mr Allen to give.

- 34. The situation is different if Mr Allen's application fails and the Court does not make a Group Costs Order. If that happens, Mr Allen and Slater and Gordon Lawyers may seek third-party litigation funding to pay for the legal costs in the proceeding. This would involve an agreement for the litigation funder to pay the bills for Slater and Gordon Lawyers' legal work each month. In return, at the end of the proceeding, the litigation funder would seek repayment for the bills it has paid, plus an extra amount that would most likely be either a percentage of the money recovered for Group Members or a multiple of all the bills it has already paid. These two amounts (for the bills and the extra amount) would be paid out of any money recovered for Group Members from a settlement or judgment.
- 35. Whether this class action proceeds under the current 'no-win-no-fee' position, becomes subject to a Group Costs Order, or instead proceeds with support from a litigation funder, Group Members will not have to pay any costs out of their own pocket.

## **IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION**

- 36. Copies of the relevant documents, including the most recent version of the pleadings, may be obtained by:
  - accessing the **<u>Supreme Court's website</u>**;
  - accessing the <u>G8 Class Action website</u>; or
  - contacting the **G8 Class Action Hotline** on 1800 071 827.
- 37. If there is anything you are unsure about, you can find more information or contact Slater and Gordon Lawyers by visiting the <u>G8 Class Action Website</u> or by calling the G8 Class Action Hotline on 1800 071 827, or by seeking your own legal advice.

38. If there is anything of which you are unsure and you do not want to speak with Slater and Gordon Lawyers (or you want to understand their involvement better), you may get legal advice from a solicitor of your choice.

#### **OPTION A – OPT OUT FORM**

#### SUPREME COURT OF VICTORIA AT MELBOURNE COMMERCIAL COURT GROUP PROCEEDINGS LIST

S ECI 2020 04339

BETWEEN

#### PAUL ALLEN

and

#### G8 EDUCATION LIMITED (ACN 123 828 553)

Defendant

Plaintiff

#### DO <u>NOT</u> FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS FORM UNLESS YOU WANT TO <u>OPT OUT</u> OF THE G8 SHAREHOLDER CLASS ACTION. IF YOU OPT OUT YOU WILL NO LONGER BE A GROUP MEMBER

To: Manager, Commercial Court Registry and Deputy Registrar Supreme Court of Victoria Commercial Court Registry 450 Little Bourke Street Melbourne VIC 3000 <u>commercialcourt@supcourt.vic.gov.au</u>

Date: .....

Signed by

......[signature]

If you would like to **opt out** of the G8 shareholder class action, please return this form to the Commercial Court Registry of the Supreme Court of Victoria by email or by post, at the addresses on this form, by 4.00pm (AEST) on Friday 20 August 2021.