

17 February 2023

To whom it may concern,

My name is Laura Kennedy, and I am writing to apply for the Internship Programme at Byrne Wallace LLP.

I have had a lifelong interest in current affairs, politics and equal access to justice. My college degree has consistently been geared towards combating injustice and critically analysing legal mechanisms, with emphasis on team collaboration and independent research. I graduated with a First Class Honours in Law with Social Justice from University College Dublin. I am on track to graduate with a First Class Honours LL.M in Family and Child Law from University College Cork, which I am studying alongside my FE-1 examinations. My time in college has taught me how to balance academic achievement with extracurricular activities, from which I have gained excellent time management and multitasking skills. I am a highly skilled researcher, having acted as a Research Assistant in both the UCC Family Law and Child Law Clinics, the Traveller Equality and Justice Project and as a Peer Researcher with University College Dublin. From these experiences, I have developed a keen analytical eye for complex legal issues, attention to detail and problem solving skills. I have a wealth of experience working as part of a team, from my time on society committees and my volunteer work with St Vincent de Paul. As well as fostering my interpersonal skills, I also learned about conflict resolution, co-operation and leadership.

Byrne Wallace LLP's dedication to providing efficient and accessible service, as well as its renowned reputation as one of Ireland's leading full service law firms is what inspired me to apply. As someone interested in combining a knowledge of social inequality with the study of law to provide innovative legal solutions, I know that by interning at Byrne Wallace LLP, I will gain invaluable skills and practical experience. As someone who has extensively studied Child Care Law, I believe that working alongside Ireland's largest team of Child Care Law solicitors would offer me the best possible insight into practicing in this area of law. Having the opportunity to learn about representing TUSLA, providing input into child protection policy and assisting with cases from the District Court to the Supreme Court is something I would find daunting, but incredibly rewarding. By being an Intern with Byrne Wallace, I would also hope to gain experience in other areas that interest me, such as Employment Law, Health and Social Care, Property Law and Litigation. Having the opportunity to intern in a firm that has such a wide variety of practice areas would allow me to gain further experience and insight into these areas. Working in a firm that values and rewards the work of those at the beginning of their legal career is very important to me. By obtaining an internship at your firm, I know I would receive the best possible guidance and skillset as someone who wants to pursue a career in law. I believe that working in a firm committed to providing excellent service, who work to inform legislation and advise state bodies, and who have comprehensive legal expertise in this field would allow me to start my legal career in the most fulfilling and rewarding way.

I believe my background, experiences and interests will enable me to be a valuable addition to the team at Byrne Wallace LLP, and that I have the drive and interest required to fill the role. I am available for an interview at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Laura Kennedy