

Ciara Loftus
HR Manager
ByrneWallace

28th October 2020

Dear Ms Loftus,

I wish to apply for a position in the 2021 ByrneWallace Traineeship Programme. To date, I have passed seven of my FE1s and will complete my final exam in Tort in November of this year. I attained my primary degree in Corporate Law and carried out Post-Graduate studies in an LL.B programme, both of which I completed in NUI Galway.

I have experience across a range of legal practice areas as evidenced in my application and C.V. My own research of ByrneWallace coupled with the training webinar gave me great insight into the firm's unique and dedicated approach to its trainees. The importance the firm places on Learning and Development and its culture of strong collegiality across teams sets ByrneWallace apart from other firms. The training period is a pivotal point in a solicitor's career and I am excited and impressed by the teaching ethos of the firm. The fact that there is Learning and Development specific to each team, as well as within each department speaks to a wonderfully supportive culture for both trainees and solicitors.

What makes ByrneWallace an exceptionally attractive firm for me is the breadth of practice areas and the scope to work with a diverse range of high profile clients and be involved in rewarding transactions. Another admirable focus of the firm is its effort to achieve gender equality at every level. I would be very pleased to carry out a rotation within the Litigation department for which I have developed a keen interest. I enjoy the cut and thrust of this area and it's fast-paced nature. I also enjoy my work in employment law and am eager to gain more experience in this area within ByrneWallace, which has a reputation as the *home for employment law in Ireland*.

I enjoyed learning about the firm's sports and social committee and the opportunities to engage in projects such as Solace and the wellness programme. ByrneWallace's commitment to work-life balance, mentoring and community programmes is very much aligned with my values and interests. Through my research of the firm, it has become apparent that ByrneWallace is not only a perfect fit for me, but also that I would be a great fit within the culture of your firm.

I found it particularly helpful to read about the personal journeys of previous trainees as it gave me a real sense of life as a trainee within ByrneWallace. Several cited the wonderful mentorship, the high-quality teaching, the open-door policy and how this supportive environment enabled them to become great solicitors. It was also nice to learn how trainees are encouraged to ask questions and that each solicitor is willing to take the time to explain matters. Hearing from Martin Cooney, a fellow NUIG graduate who completed the same studies as I, speak on the webinar about his experience instilled great hope that I can also achieve this. Each day in my training is a learning opportunity which I take full advantage of and I feel privileged to work under incredibly supportive mentors in my current job. I value this enormously and would be grateful for the opportunity to train with Byrne Wallace's esteemed team.

I would be grateful to attain an interview for this position, to have an opportunity to showcase what I can bring to the team as a trainee. I am dedicated to progressing professionally, and am eager to commence my training contract within a dynamic and collegiate firm such as ByrneWallace. I am confident that my enthusiasm, work ethic and willingness to learn, together with my professional experience to date makes me an excellent candidate for this position.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application for this position and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Alaina Maher