Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Ann Marie Geary and I am applying to Byrne Wallace for a position on the Trainee Programme starting in 2020. I am a Final Year student studying Law and French in University College Cork. In my cover letter and CV I will put forward to you the reasons why I am well suited to a career with Byrne Wallace.

I have always wanted to pursue a career in law. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience of working in a smaller Cork-based firm but I have always thrived on the challenge of competing with the best and my internship with Coakley Moloney further developed my desire to pursue a career in the corporate law sector. I witnessed law in action on a District and Circuit Court level. I have always enjoyed researching and understanding legal issues and I believe that I have the motivation and work ethic to thrive in this area. When I was in fifth year of school I competed in the Empire Mock Trials World Championships in New York with a team from my school. Since then, I have had a great interest in working as a solicitor in a larger city such as Dublin and being involved in high profile cases.

I believe that my individual skills make me well suited for a career in corporate law. Byrne Wallace is a firm which truly values innovation and I am confident that I would thrive in such an environment seeing as I competed in the final round of the A&L Goodbody Bold Ideas Student Innovation Awards in November 2016. This gave me the opportunity to develop and showcase my commercial awareness and knowledge of the business world. Here I presented my idea which proposed a Corporation Tax Start-Up Plan for Companies looking to move to Ireland in a Post-Brexit Environment, which could in turn create an increase in Foreign Direct Investment.

Throughout my time at University I have proved myself to be an incredibly hard-working individual who is accustomed to a fast-paced workplace such as Byrne Wallace. I am a well-rounded applicant and I am capable of fully applying myself in many areas. As well as being a final year Law and French student, I work part-time at Airbnb, I am the UCC Final Year Class Representative (with a seat on the UCC Law Society Executive Committee) and I am dedicated to my passion of dancing.

I have always been very involved with UCC Clubs and Societies. In my first year I reached the final of the First Year Internal Moot Court competition by the UCC Law Society. In my Second Year I was involved with the Law Society as a member of the Editorial Board of Cork Online Law Review and as Conference Coordinator for the prestigious UCC Law Conference. I also served as Public Relations Officer for UCC's French Society for one year and I competed in the FLAC Society moot competition.

In order to be a successful trainee in a large law firm, it is necessary to have a fine-tuned set of communication skills. For my current position as Trip Case Manager for Airbnb, I have completed several weeks of training for communication and mediation skills, both of which are essential for a career in corporate law. In this position I have also been developing my ability to set goals and reach targets. I am well practiced in the field of negotiation thanks to this position.

As Byrne Wallace is a leading law firm, being titled the *Ireland Law Firm of the Year 2016* by Chambers, it is essential that its employees have excellent people skills. Byrne Wallace is famed for excelling in client service and I have a long history of working in the customer service sector, as can be seen by my CV. This is a major advantage for me as I am comfortable working with customers and clients in a professional manner. Working in customer service has truly developed my personal skills and characteristics. Thanks to my work as a housekeeper over the past few years, I have spent a lot of time learning to work successfully as part of a team, which I understand is a very important part of working at Byrne Wallace.

Byrne Wallace is a firm which I would be honoured to work with. From my own personal research I can conclude that I am very impressed with the ethos of the firm. I am impressed by the progressiveness of the firm and its dedication to provide an equal opportunity workplace for all. I am also intrigued by how invested the firm is in its trainees; providing a hands-on training contract with a strong emphasis on learning and development.

To conclude, I am drawn in by the amazing opportunity which is the Byrne Wallace Trainee Programme. I am firmly of the belief that I would thrive as a trainee with Byrne Wallace and I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to do so. I am available for interview at your convenience and I eagerly await your response.

Kindest Regards,

Ann Marie Geary