Ciara Loftus,

Human Resources Manager

ByrneWallace

88 Harcourt Street,

Dublin 2

Dear Ciara Loftus,

I am a Law with Politics undergraduate from University College Dublin with a current first class honours, and I would like to apply for ByrneWallace’s traineeship programme. I became interested in the firm after I learnt about the firm’s Intellectual Property expertise, its open door policy and its educational culture.

From my research of your trainee programme and from testimonials by trainees of the firm, ByrneWallace’s excellent reputation as a progressive law firm stands out as the ideal environment for me to develop the skills I would need in my future career in commercial law. I am drawn to commercial law as it is a career that demands a diversity of perspectives in order to find the best solution for the client. ByrneWallace has a strong dedication towards its trainees, as evidenced by holding seminars on legal topics as well as business and finance courses and the hands-on experience a trainee receives, such working on large-scale projects, and attending on counsel in the High Court. ByrneWallace has a demonstrated expertise in intellectual property such as hosting the Annual Intellectual Property Index in 2018 and advising clients such as Inflazome Limited on licensing agreements. I would like to be involved in the practical work of intellectual property and the commercial aspects of it, as I had the opportunity to study Intellectual Property: A Global Perspective at the prestigious Fordham University Summer School, and I believe Byrne Wallace would provide me with the skills and knowledge needed for this area.

I became interested in pursuing a career in commercial law during the UCD Law Fair in my first year of my degree where I learnt about the client-focused, collaborative nature of commercial law firms. During my participation in the junior round of a negotiation competition, I enjoyed working in a team and sharing perspectives to find the best solution for our client. I applied these skills during my internship with William Fry where I took a proactive approach to seeking work from trainees and solicitors. I was entrusted with challenging and rewarding work, which helped me develop my ability to work well under pressure, my attention to detail, and my interpersonal skills. These experiences helped me to relay complicated information in a clear, succinct manner and apply practical solutions to problems that may arise. I have strong interpersonal and leadership skills, as evidenced by my role as a mentor to first year students during their first semester, providing them with a tour during their orientation and giving support throughout the semester.

From listening to the trainee’s testimonials, I have learnt about the value ByrneWallace places on continuous development. Interpersonal skills, resilience and commitment are particularly emphasised as trainees often will be entrusted with complex tasks and have access to state-of-the-art research facilities. I also believe knowledge and development is important for a commercial law solicitor. I have previously won the UCD Law Review Case Note Competition in 2019 where the judges were impressed with my skill and forward-thinking analysis. This demonstrated my self-initiative, resilience and attention to detail.

I hope I have demonstrated my passion and enthusiasm for the ByrneWallace trainee programme. I believe I have developed the skills from my degree, internships and other activities that would allow me to excel as a trainee at ByrneWallace and that the firm’s trainee programme would further hone these skills.

Yours faithfully,

Aoife Muckian  
17704905 BCL Law with Politics