

David McGinley
Tirhomin,
Milford,
Co Donegal
mail.davidmcginley@gmail.com
+353 879609677

FAO: Beth Onslow
88 Harcourt Street,
Dublin 2,
D02 DK18,
Ireland

Trainee Solicitor Programme

Dear Beth,

I am writing to apply for a position in the ByrneWallace Trainee Programme. I hope to successfully gain a place within the programme for a number of reasons. When researching all trainee options, ByrneWallace stood out in terms of the fit for what I hope to get from a training contract. Strong training and development, exposure to top tier clients/projects, international opportunities and a pool of vastly experienced future colleagues to draw learnings from. Having recently attended the trainee open evening and met with some of your current team it reaffirmed in mind why ByrneWallace is my priority choice of trainee programme if successful.

An area of law I am keen to develop expertise in is real estate law - commercial, residential and the financing aspects. ByrneWallace has a stellar reputation for this speciality, and based on my research of both desktop and speaking with people within the industry, it is the leading firm in Ireland. To get exposure at trainee stage with the added potential of building my career further within this department at ByrneWallace would help fast track my career considerably. I have also recently registered to study the Diploma in Construction Law run by the Law Society of Ireland to continue my progress in this field. Other areas I have a strong interest in is Litigation and restructuring and Insolvency.

Another point which stood out to me when researching the different trainee programmes was the different attitude I felt ByrneWallace had compared to the majority of other firms. Training and development doesn't stop once a trainee qualifies. This was echoed by the current staff I spoke with at the opening evening - both seasoned solicitors and current trainee's commented that in ByrneWallace the opportunity to learn is facilitated throughout. This is something important to my choice, I want to continue to be developed and pushed so that I can successfully achieve my career goals of becoming a partner in ByrneWallace. A subtle but important difference between yourself and the majority of other firms who only seemed to emphasis the trainee stage.

Finally I find ByrneWallace a forward thinking and refreshing firm. The firms numerous awards prove this, their marketing campaigns are brave and unique (I loved the lemon/lemonade campaign) but more than anything the people I have encountered within the firm prove to me that the culture and firm's DNA is not just meaningless claims but in fact genuinely a core of the organisation. It was refreshing to hear the different backgrounds and career paths the trainee's I spoke with at the open evening had. Although quite an intangible metric, the takeaway I took from the experience is that ByrneWallace actually looks at the

individual person and identifies the potential and passion in that person, thus giving it a very specific competitive advantage to a lot of its more 'traditional' competitors.

I am aware my application / CV is potentially different to majority of trainee applicants. I have taken the less traditional route and thus makes it even more important for my career to fast track it with an outstanding trainee placement. Having studied law at undergraduate level I was keen to add a more commercial focus to my education and expand my business acumen. I completed a MSc at Smurfit Business School which was my springboard for a successful period of years working in Ireland and internationally in some of the largest companies in the world. This experience I believe makes me a strong candidate for a business orientated law firm. I have previously shown/developed attributes I feel are important to a role as a corporate solicitor. Communication skills, negotiation, contract structuring & closing, analytical, confidence, ambition, strong work ethic and resilience.

I look forward to hearing from the team at ByrneWallace soon and I appreciate the time spent considering my application. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries about my application. To conclude, I feel I have a strong mix of relevant experience in both the legal and business world proving I am a competent candidate. I would like to stress that my desire to attain a place on the programme is even greater than any previous experience and if successful I would demonstrate a strong appetite to learn and repay such faith placed in me.

Yours sincerely,
David