Dervla Collins Hillfarm, Narraghmore, Athy, Co.Kildare dcollin1@tcd.ie 0877594757

Beth Onslow HR Administrator, ByrneWallace, 88 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2

Dear Beth,

I am in my last year of a law degree at Trinity College and I am applying with great enthusiasm for a position on the ByrneWallace trainee solicitor programme.

I have always received a warm welcome at ByrneWallace and have found the staff to be approachable and helpful. It is an environment in which I believe I would flourish as a solicitor. I have had the chance to meet with many of the current trainees and I have learnt what is expected of them at ByrneWallace; excellence and commitment. I believe I can offer this.

At Trinity I have a received a world class legal education, I strive to continue this high standard by accepting a training contract at a firm where hard work is expected and rewarded, and where I am pushed outside my comfort zone. I believe a training contract at ByrneWallace would offer me this and allow me to develop into an exceptional solicitor.

This summer I spent three months as an intern at OSM Partners. I learnt immensely from the experience and enjoyed the chance to apply what I had learnt in college in a working environment. The lunchtime talks and intern seminars throughout the summer at ByrneWallace allowed me to hear from different areas of the firm, and gave me a great insight into how topical events such as Brexit were affecting the legal landscape. This exposure fostered my commercial awareness. I was then able to contrast my work at OSM Partners with my placement at Dublin City Council and it confirmed to me that I would like to develop my career at a top corporate firm.

I want to work for a law firm that is looking ahead for future lawyers and being a leader technologically and with its social programmes. The progressive work environment that Catherine Guy advocates for at ByrneWallace has reaffirmed to me that I would enjoy my work life at ByrneWallace and feel supported as my career develops.

Outside the classroom, I am passionate about access to education and I have been involved with Voluntary Tuition Programme since starting college. Running the society to provide grinds to over 300 disadvantaged children in the local community has been a huge time commitment, and has involved a lot of organisation and sacrifice. But it is a rewarding and worthwhile project and has shaped my time at Trinity and my considerations for the future. My work with the community officers in St Andrews has taught me many things that I could not have learnt in the classroom. I am confident that I have been able to balance my extra curricular activities with my grades, which I have improved every year. I am confident that I would be able to add to the firms calibre not only with my legal skills but through my enthusiasm to get involved in their corporate responsibility programmes.

I look forward to meeting you, Sandra and Crona again and demonstrating to you that I will be a motivated, capable and confident solicitor.

Yours Sincerely,

Dervla Collins