Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Ellen Hennessy, I am a final year law student at Trinity College Dublin. I want to work for Byrne Wallace, one of Ireland’s largest and most progressive law firms as I believe this is the right place for me to launch my legal career.

A career at Byrne Wallace can offer a wealth of opportunities, experiences and challenges. From attending the “Trainee Insights Webinar” I have learned about the culture and values of Byrne Wallace in addition to the various areas of expertise. The daily reality of work as collaborative, diverse and client orientated appeals to me greatly. I have strong teamwork, communication and interpersonal skills. I am currently employed as a part-time medical receptionist working in a busy inner-city GP practice. My experience at the practice has taught me the importance of communication and teamwork, especially as a means to problem solving. In addition, I have been involved in various team-based projects throughout my studies, working with Trinity FLAC and the Irish Innocence Project. The Innocence Project was a research opportunity where I had the opportunity to work alongside criminal solicitors, barristers and law students to research miscarriages of justice in Ireland. These experiences contextualised my learning outside of lectures and invigorated my interest in a career in law.

The culture and nature of work at Byrne Wallace is an aspect which has drawn me to the company and this programme. The culture at Byrne Wallace is rooted in decency, courtesy, respect and fairness. Byrne Wallace has achieved gender parity at partner level and is dedicated to gender balance at all levels in the firm. I am currently the Mentorship Co-ordinator for the Trinity Law Society “Women in Law Mentorship Programme”. This involves liaising with students and legal professionals who are partaking in the programme, to help facilitate an open channel of communication. This programme aims to draw awareness to the importance of gender equality in law. For me, it is extremely important to work at a firm which not only supports, but actively demonstrates their culture of diversity and inclusion. Throughout my time at Trinity, I have been a grinds tutor with the Voluntary Tuition Programme. This involves providing weekly grinds to primary school children in the nearby St Andrew Resource Centre. I value the firm’s commitment to corporate social responsibility, in particular the firm’s involvement with the Solas Project.

I am particularly interested in the Employment Law Team at Byrne Wallace. I have studied employment law at Trinity College and am very interested in seeing how employment law will evolve in the current climate. The employment team is tasked with advising clients facing unprecedent challenges during the escalating pandemic, particularly in relation to their legal obligations and ensuring health and safety of employees, this is an area of great interest to me.

To me, the opportunities at Byrne Wallace seem endless. The strong commitment to learning and development with an extremely hands-on approach to training and the opportunity to work on the most exciting legal assignments inspires me to develop my career at Byrne Wallace.

I am a determined, motivated self-starter and I want to learn from the very best, and I believe I could rise to the challenges at Byrne Wallace.

Thank you for reviewing my application,

Sincerely,

Ellen Hennessy.