

Lucy MacDonald
87 Anglesea Road
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4

16 October 2016

Crona McLoughlin,
HR Manager,
ByrneWallace

Dear Ms. McLoughlin,

As a final year Law and French student and aspiring corporate lawyer, I'm eager to put the valuable skills I have developed over the course of my work experience to use in a commercial law firm. A traineeship at ByrneWallace would allow me not only to enhance my own legal abilities but also to benefit the firm through my strong work ethic and ability to achieve high results in a team setting.

My roles as a teaching volunteer in an NGO, as a valued member of restaurant staff and as an enthusiastic legal intern have all equipped me with skills crucial to perform effectively when collaborating with a team. The interpersonal skills I have cultivated through working with children and in customer service have proven transferrable as negotiation skills that can be put to use at a law firm. The positive feedback I have received for my work in each of my roles has left me confident that I would make a strong contribution in a commercial law firm, where I would continue to work confidently under pressure and commit myself to undertake each task with diligence. In particular, my experiences as both a teaching volunteer and a literacy support mentor to underprivileged children have instilled in me the importance of setting clear objectives with those with whom I work and communicating efficiently in order to meet these goals. In a corporate law firm, this experience will be of practical use when working with other department members to ensure a client's needs are being effectively met.

ByrneWallace is the firm in which I feel I would thrive and perform to the best of my abilities. The emphasis placed by the firm on achieving positive results for clients, its innovation and its excellent reputation appeal to me. I was particularly impressed by its receipt of the Law Firm of the Year Award in 2016 and its position as the first law firm in Ireland to receive an ISO 27001 certification. My four week placement in ByrneWallace's Health Services department during the summer of 2016 left a lasting impression on me. I gained not only essential first-hand legal experience but also insight into life as a trainee in a commercial law firm. The support and encouragement shown towards me by trainee solicitors and staff in my department convinced me that I would flourish working in such a challenging yet exciting environment. Furthermore, the opportunity to network and hear from trainees at the trainee solicitor open evening reminded me of the firm's friendly and welcoming nature. The firm's values match my own, especially its commitment to corporate social responsibility. This was evident from my very first day in ByrneWallace as interns commenced work in an interesting way by partaking in a tag rugby event for the Solas Project.

My ability to successfully balance my studies, part-time employment in customer service and a varying range of extracurricular pursuits assures me that I will progress naturally from a competent student into a competent lawyer. Through the ByrneWallace trainee

programme I will have the opportunity not only to put my own skills to use in a team environment but to learn and grow in a progressive law firm.

Thank you for considering my application.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy MacDonald