

## Lexie Miller relates her experience as a Barlow Robbins LLP trainee

Before embarking on a career in Law, I read French and Spanish at university. Following my time at university, I travelled for several months and then worked in various roles before completing the GDL and LPC in London. Once I had finished my studies, I joined the Media, Brands and Technology department of a law firm in the city where I worked for two years in the Intellectual Property team.

I joined Barlow Robbins in September 2014 and have really enjoyed my experience here so far - the firm has definitely lived up to its expectations. Trainees are seen as a valued member of the team from day one. The firm also delivers in terms of responsibility being given to trainees early on and a high quality of work being offered. I have found the standard and commitment to training to be superior to the training that some of my peers have received in the bigger city firms.

I spent my first seat in the PI & Clinical Negligence department in the firm's Guildford office. Having come from a medical background, I was curious to see what it would be like to work in the medical field from a legal point of view. I was given the opportunity to experience every stage in the litigation process in this seat, which provided me with a thorough understanding of both the contentious side of Law and the area of PI and Clinical Negligence. I found the work fascinating and incredibly rewarding. I really enjoyed the team I worked with and my supervisor was very supportive and approachable, which really helped me to feel at home quickly and hit the ground running. I was given lots of responsibility and direct client contact early on and was able to gain a good insight into what it would be like to work as a qualified solicitor in this area. I was also fortunate enough to represent the firm at a 3-day Coroner's inquest which provided an exciting opportunity to see the Law in practice.

I am now in my second seat, working in the Residential Property department in the firm's Woking office. I am really enjoying the fast-paced, commercial aspect of residential property. I have already learned so much in terms of property law and the processes involved in purchasing and selling properties. I also like the fact that this area crosses over with other areas such as private client and corporate law. Again, I have already been given a lot of responsibility and direct client contact.

In terms of atmosphere, the office environment in both offices is generally very friendly and welcoming. As a result, I settled into the firm very quickly. It is a social firm and there are ample ways to get to know everybody through the regular social events or by joining the various committees, such as the CSR committee or the social committee. Trainees are also actively involved in pro bono work, which is a really nice way of giving something back to the local community.

In short, Barlow Robbins is a great place to train and set up your career as a successful lawyer. The firm genuinely cares about its trainees and their aspirations. You will be given high quality work and responsibility early on, in a supportive and friendly environment.

