



Find out more about being a trainee at
30 Finsbury Circus

Trainee Recruitment

Devonshires is a leading law firm based in Finsbury Circus at the heart of the City.

We are proud to represent some of the leading organisations in our fields of expertise, including some of the largest registered providers of social housing, local authorities, NHS Trusts and charities as well as a host of eminent commercial organisations and private individuals.

It is our experience in providing strategic commercial advice coupled with our extensive public and third sector expertise that makes us stand out from the crowd.

Applying to Devonshires is the start of a unique and exciting path to becoming a respected legal and commercial adviser to a host of leading organisations.



A welcome from the Training Principal...

I have the best role in the firm having been Training Principal for the last 10 years.

I enjoy the job as much now as I did when I started and it seems like only yesterday I was a trainee here myself!

I take a keen interest in what our trainees are doing and seeing them develop both personally and professionally is very rewarding. I feel proud to share their journey.

My favourite parts of the job are welcoming the new trainees and telling the trainees who are selected to stay at Devonshires that they will become newly qualified solicitors with us.

Law is a profession I am proud to be part of and I truly believe there is no better place than Devonshires to commence your career in law.



James Murphy Trainee Solicitor, Employment

Having worked as a Paralegal in the Securitisation Team, I found the firm to have great ethos.

I have been given responsibility at an early stage and enjoy the contact I have with clients.

Devonshires offers a wide variety of seats and I am looking forward to the challenges that I will be faced with during my training contract. I have enjoyed my different seats so far and have found the level of training to be excellent.

Degree: Business and Law

LPC Electives: Commercial Law, Private Acquisitions and Employment

Date TC commenced: October 2010

Interests: Cooking, Rugby, F1 and MotoGP

Memorable moment: Presenting and securing a £100m L&Q tender

Quirky fact: I have always wanted to compete in a World Yacht Race

Why you should apply to us

From the moment you join, you'll be actively involved in all aspects of Devonshires life. Juggling all of this along with meeting new colleagues and experiencing London life will certainly keep you on your toes!

- Our size means that you will work closely with partners and clients on a daily basis, you'll be exposed to important clients and work from the moment you start.
- With just under 200 employees in one office we offer a truly collegiate, friendly and supportive environment in which to develop your career.
- We look for employees who can offer something different and seek to nurture that diversity and make it part of our culture.

All this results in us being a successful, forward thinking, dynamic law firm which will provide the perfect platform from which to launch your career.

Life as a trainee

- We have a genuine commitment to ensuring a healthy work life balance.
- Our close knit group of 20 trainees agree that being a trainee is one of the most exciting times of their lives.
- The trainees have active social lives alongside working hard! A work hard play hard ethic and attitude is widely embraced at Devonshires and we encourage all employees to participate in the extra curricular activities which the firm supports.
- We have a Trainee Social Committee which organises end of quarter drinks, evening events such as bowling, dancing and ice skating, as well as weekends away.
- There are also plenty of fundraising and volunteering events to get involved in such as bake sales, sponsored walks and runs, pro-bono legal advice, careers advice and regeneration projects.



“The size allows for early responsibility enabling the quick development of skills and progress.”

Whilst you are with us

- Your development as a trainee is fundamental to the growth and success of our business so we go to great lengths to give you all the help you need.
- A two day induction helps ease trainees into their new role, meet key people, develop practical skills such as IT training, office systems and procedures, finance, billing and client care.
- You will select four seats out of: Commercial Litigation, Housing Management, Construction, Property, Banking and Governance, Corporate, Projects, Employment, Family and Medical Negligence. We aim to give you real responsibility at an early stage so you can learn and develop quickly.
- Close supervision will be provided by our partners. You will enjoy a highly engaged extended audience of fee earners and support staff who are interested in your achievements.
- When it comes to qualification, if you make the grade and would like to stay on with us, we'll make every effort to keep you on as an NQ.



Samantha Poulter
Trainee Solicitor, Property

Devonshires initially appealed to me due to the size and expertise of the firm. The size allows early responsibility enabling the quick development of skills and progress. The diverse areas of practice pave the way for varied caseloads and real day to day client contact.

At interview I knew the firm would be somewhere I would be happy to work and from day one of my induction I was made to feel part of the firm. During my first seat in Commercial Litigation I was immediately impressed by the “open door” policy which exists across the firm.

Degree: Law

LPC electives: Commercial Dispute Resolution, Banking and Finance, PI & Clinical Negligence

Date TC commenced: October 2010

Interests: Netball, Rugby, Cricket

Memorable moment: Being introduced to Rennie's dance moves at the staff Christmas party

Quirky fact: I can jump over twice my height

How to apply

Applications open in July and remain open for a month.

Visit the website www.devonshires.com and download an application form.

Please email trainee.recruit@devonshires.co.uk if you have any extra questions that need answering.



What we look for

You may have just graduated with a law degree, or, perhaps like some of our previous trainees, you are someone who is looking for a complete career change.

Academic excellence is essential. We welcome applications from graduates and undergraduates from a broad range of backgrounds and degree disciplines.

You will need a minimum of two As and one B at A level (or equivalent) and must have gained, or be expected to gain a 2:1 or higher degree classification.

You must have completed the Legal Practice Course (LPC) before starting your training contract. If you have studied a non-law degree, you will have also completed the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL).

To stand out from the rest, you need to be a good team player, with a can-do attitude – whether doing stimulating work or more mundane (but no less essential) tasks.

You will have strong interpersonal and communication skills, as well as the ability to foster good relationships with colleagues and clients, plenty of adaptability, enthusiasm, energy and ambition. A common sense approach will stand you in good stead.

Demonstrating your desire to pursue a career as a solicitor with Devonshires will be paramount.

This brochure was created with the help of the following trainees:

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