

Louise Ervin - Trainee Solicitor at Wragge & Co LLP

8.30am – 9.00am

Depending on traffic I arrive at work and check through my emails - there seem to be so many of them! I am in my Employment and Pensions seat so I get emails from both teams, usually with updates and developments in the law. I am working on an Employment Litigation case at the moment so there is plenty to check through and action.

9.30am

Wragge & Co act for three of the High Street Banks and today I am working for one of them drafting a response to an Unfair Dismissal claim. I get to have a go at a lot of really varied work, particularly as the team is so busy at the moment and so I love being able to get stuck in.

11.00am

I meet with my principal for coffee, we meet up every month or so for a catch up and to check that I am getting on okay. At the moment I am trying to decide on which seat to do next so any guidance is much appreciated - there is so much to choose from! Richard is a Starbucks addict so we sit and chat over a latte.

12.30pm

I pick up some Pensions work, drafting a deed of appointment and removal of Trustees. I really enjoy the mix of Pensions and Employment work that I get in this seat. Luckily there are plenty of training sessions to help me as there is so much to learn!

1.00pm

I go to lunch with my mindees. They are both first seat trainees who started in the same team as me so it is my job to look after them and to check they are okay, although to be honest on more than a couple of occasions they have helped me!

2.00pm

Back to the office to do some research for a partner on recent case law. I don't find the answer (as there is none!) but I get to use my research and presenting skills which is always important.

3.00pm

I have a meeting with a pro bono client. We are currently advising on property issues but as I have worked with the client on a different pro bono matter before I volunteered to take on this work. The client is a charity and so the more we can do for them on a pro bono basis the better. I am supervised by a Solicitor in the property team where I did my first seat.

4.00pm

I am helping some of the other fee earners today with bundling for an Employment Tribunal hearing they have later in the week. The task is administrative but I get to read the documents and get a feel for the case. I might be able to attend the hearing to take notes, so any background I have is good preparation.

6.00pm

I am Secretary of the Birmingham Trainee Solicitors Society and we have our committee meetings every other Monday. This week we are meeting at Martineau Johnson, where our Treasurer works. It is a great way to meet other trainees from different firms and we get to nosey at other firms' offices too! Normally I work until around 6.30pm but I plan my time so that I can undertake this too.

7.00pm

I head back to work to send a few emails and then I head off for home.