

APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



Michelle Blackwell
Bevan Brittan LLP

Michelle works in clinical negligence and manages and support fee earners with the daily conduct of a large, varied caseload of over 60 litigated clinical negligence claims.

With supervision she runs cases while solicitors are away and is particularly proud of reaching two settlements solely through without prejudice telephone negotiations.

She was also entrusted with the responsibility to attend a case management hearing before a district judge on her own. Here, she advocated on behalf of a client.

She regularly volunteers for the Birmingham Legal Advice Clinic shadowing and supporting solicitors while they provide free legal advice.



Laura Brown
Irwin Mitchell LLP

Laura handles some 150 cases with 45 of those litigated. She works in the fast track personal injury department specialising in international personal injury claims where she is very highly thought of because of her excellent work.

Laura is a much valued member of the team and has won recognition for working longer hours when Brexit developments meant extra work was needed.

Laura enjoys helping with voluntary initiatives for the firm's charity of the year.



Aimee Haden
Bevan Brittan LLP

Aimee says she was shy when she joined and has made huge strides with confidence to become a highly valued member of staff and an integral part of the commercial property team. She was named Chartered Legal Executive Apprentice of the Year in 2019 and has won glowing praise for her hard work and commitment.

Aimee manages fee earners' diaries and takes ownership during holiday cover with enthusiasm. Her contribution extends not only to the property team but to the wider firm through being a member of the pro bono, corporate social responsibility and social committees. As part of the pro bono committee she helps co-ordinate and direct the firm's pro bono activities and through this, She has joined Birmingham's Legal Advice Clinic.



Brogan Maxwell
Irwin Mitchell LLP

Brogan became an apprentice aged 18 and straight out of sixth form. She is the first apprentice in the Paralegal Court of Protection department. She has been recognised for her commitment and achievements by her colleagues and employers and works closely with clients in a skilled and appropriate way. Brogan now has her own emerging case load and has enthusiastically embraced pro bono and charity activities. She volunteers at Birmingham's People Centre and has made an excellent mark already in all that she does.



Beth Walters
Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP

Beth is a valued team member. Her work in housing is of major strategic significance in helping to deliver the high demand for private and social homes. She specialises in residential development within real estate.

Beth has been praised for excellent academic and technical ability. Most importantly, she combines these with commerciality to deliver advice to clients in a way they understand in the context of their business.

She demonstrates the expertise and maturity of somebody far beyond her years, having mentored and supported upcoming apprentices and has spoken at career events for A-Level students, most recently speaking at an Eversheds Sutherland Solicitor Apprenticeship roadshow and previously speaking at the Birmingham Law Society 'Careers in Law' event. She assists at the Birmingham Legal Advice Clinic.