

Our application process:

The interview process for training contracts and apprenticeships typically involves three stages:

1. CV and Covering Letter

2. Initial Interview

An informal chat, getting to know you, your qualifications and experience.

3. Assessment Day

In the morning you will complete a short written exercise based on a given scenario, followed by an advocacy exercise where you will be asked to discuss a topic in a group setting.

In the afternoon, you will have your formal panel interview.

Overall the process is straightforward and not designed to trip you up, rather an opportunity for you to demonstrate what you could bring to the firm. A general piece of advice from me: be yourself, avoid using AI and focus on showing a genuine interest in the firm and highlight your most relevant experiences.

Harry Clarke
Trainee Solicitor

Meet our Trainee Supervisor:



Shelley McLachlan
Director

As Training Principal I oversee our trainees' journey from the first stage of interview, through to qualification. I meet with our trainees on a quarterly basis, ensuring that they feel fully supported and have their voices heard. It is a delight to be able to assist aspiring solicitors to achieve great things.

About us:

Starting your legal career with Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors means joining a long established firm, held in high regard by its local community. With a long history of developing legal talent, we have supported the people and businesses of Calderdale and Kirklees, and our commitment to high quality legal work continues to shape how we train the next generation of solicitors.

Our approach to training is that our trainees and apprentices are the future of the firm, and as such we want to provide you with the best foundation and skills to start your legal careers. You will work alongside highly qualified legal professionals, many of whom live locally and understand the communities we serve. You will gain hands on experience, real responsibility and direct client contact across our offices in Halifax, Huddersfield and Brighouse.

Areas of training we offer:

- Employment Law
- Family Law and Mediation
- Commercial and Corporate Law
- Children and Care Proceedings
- Resolving Disputes
- Wills, Probate, Trusts & Estates
- Conveyancing
- Notary Work

Join us:

Career opportunities, Training Contracts and Apprenticeships are advertised on our website.

Subscribe to our social media to stay updated on ongoing opportunities with Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors.

Halifax Office
11 Fountain Street, HX1 1LU
T: 01422 339600

Huddersfield Office
22 Queen Street, HD1 2SP
T: 01484 483800

Brighouse Office
4 Commercial St, HD6 1AQ
T: 01484 710571



Follow us on LinkedIn

Wwilkinson
woodward
SOLICITORS

CELEBRATING
140
YEARS

GENERATIONS SERVED, TRUST EARNED

TRAINEE AND APPRENTICE GUIDE



Hear from our Directors:



James Hodgson
Director

What qualities are important to Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors when recruiting trainees and apprentices?

As a firm, we receive a high number of applications for our trainee and apprenticeship schemes, the applications are open to both internal and external applicants. We look for candidates who have a strong academic or relevant working background and demonstrate an understanding and engagement with business development. We value those who show a genuine interest and passion in the areas of law Wilkinson Woodward specialise and advise clients in relation to. In return, we provide structured training, close supervision and the experience needed to develop their skills and grow as confident legal professionals.



Laura Kurowski
Director

What does career progression look like at Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors?

Career progression is merit-based defined by individual performance, technical expertise and contribution towards the firm's growth. Opportunities are there for those who produce high quality work, exceed targets, generate new business and build strong trust-based relationships with clients, mentor junior colleagues and contribute to the firm's internal culture. A number of trainees have progressed to director level, I myself started as a trainee in 2006 and was asked to be Managing Director from April 2026.

Hear from our Trainees:



Roan Greenwood
Trainee Solicitor

Why did you choose to apply for a Training Contract with Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors?

I chose a training contract with Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors to continue my learning with an established local law firm. As a high street firm, Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors offers its trainees hands on experience across a wide range of practice areas and access to supportive mentors, who are well established in their respective fields. The real responsibility and practical learning opportunities that allow me to contribute meaningfully to clients make training here particularly rewarding.



Chloe Cuniffe
Trainee Solicitor

What can you expect from a Training Contract with Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors?

As a trainee solicitor, I will complete four seats during my training contract. Each seat will be in a different area of law. I have completed a seat in Wills and Probate and Family so far, which I have found beneficial as they have built my confidence in attending clients face to face on sensitive matters.

My responsibilities include attending client meetings, drafting documents, legal research, case management and communicating with clients and other professionals. You should not be afraid to ask questions or express your opinion on matters you are assisting in.

Whilst completing your training contract, you should expect to use your initiative when given a task and show a willingness to learn (as learning never stops)!

Hear from our Apprentice Solicitor:



Nadine Edwards
Apprentice Solicitor

What can you expect from an apprenticeship at Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors?

As an apprentice solicitor, I work four days a week and attend the University of Law one day a week, with my study paid by the firm. The combination of studying and workplace training is incredibly valuable. I have a skills coach from the University of Law who meets with me and my supervisor every 9 - 12 weeks. Together we discuss my studying, workplace training and future development. Sometimes juggling both can be hard but I have lots of support at work and with the University of Law. My experience has been positive, and I would recommend an apprenticeship to other people looking for a route into law.

Our culture:



Georgia Johnson
Trainee Solicitor

How would you describe the culture at Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors?

Wilkinson Woodward Solicitors is a local firm that prides itself on being an active part of its community. With offices in Halifax, Huddersfield, and Brighouse, the firm regularly supports and takes part in local events. Each year, staff are involved in initiatives such as the Brighouse 1940s Weekend, the Huddersfield Literature Festival, and RSPCA K9 in the Park, to name a few.

Within the firm, there are also opportunities to join the marketing and events committees, allowing individuals at all levels to have a voice in the firm's activities and direction. The firm values input from everyone, from trainees to directors, and fosters a collaborative culture in which trainees are involved from the outset. From my experience, the firm is genuinely invested in developing not only your legal skills, but also your long-term future within the firm, recognising that this includes involvement in business development.