

About Nockolds LLP

Nockolds LLP is proud that the firm is ranked in both the Legal 500 and Chambers UK publications as a leading law firm in Hertfordshire. With in depth knowledge and expertise, the firm offers advice and assistance across the entire spectrum of legal services covering both business or personal matters. With its thriving International Team, the firm is also able to assist those clients with interests abroad.



Nockolds LLP, whilst proud of its 175 year history, is an extremely progressive forward-thinking firm that prides itself on the highest levels of client care which is evidenced by the firm being awarded the Law Society's Lexcel quality standard for the last 6 years.

We have 10 Partners and 80 staff, including 25 fee earners, giving Nockolds the ability to capitalise on all the benefits of a medium sized law firm whilst being large enough to successfully win and retain large corporate clients.

Our Culture

Nockolds LLP is much more than a law firm. As well as focussing on the excellent legal advice, each member of the firm is encouraged to get involved with other aspects of the business such as our Environmental Project, Social Committee and Staff Committee.

Environmental Project

Nockolds are committed to the environment and have a working party dedicated to reducing our Carbon Footprint through implementing environmentally sustainable practices.

Nockolds working party have also joined a number of environmental groups including the Legal Sector Alliance and Princes May Day Network

Staff Committee and Team Representatives

Communication within the firm is a priority and Nockolds are always striving to improve on communications within and between the departments. Although Nockolds operates an open door policy to your Partner, the Managing Partner and Human Resources there is also a staff committee. The staff committee meet bi-monthly to discuss improvements to the firm and make recommendations based on feedback from the staff.

Application Criteria

Nockolds looks to recruit trainees who have something different to offer. If you feel you have done something unique and have an appreciated level of individuality, we would like to hear from you. We also like our trainees to have some experience in the law, whether this is by way of a vacation placement or other pro bono or work experience. Language skills are also welcome.

If Nockolds sounds like the type of firm in which you would excel and the training contract is something that you are looking for, then look no further.

The Training Contract

Nockolds LLP offers a training contract that encourages a hands-on approach from the outset. We offer our trainees responsibility, exposure to the firms' business and clients, and a tailored training contract to ensure you are well prepared and equipped for life as a fully rounded solicitor. Nockolds' trainees are encouraged to handle their own caseload under the supervision of a Partner and as such you will "own" this case load.

Typically, Nockolds' training contract is divided into four seats lasting six months in each chosen department.

1 compulsory seat in Contentious Law	1 compulsory seat in Non-Contentious Law	Additional seats available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Employment Dispute Resolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential Property Wills and Probate Commercial Property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal Injury Company Commercial International

Each trainee will be expected to complete: -

1 seat in Contentious Law: Family, Employment, Dispute Resolution

1 seat in Non-Contentious Law: Residential Property, Wills and Probate, Commercial Property.

With possibilities of a further 2 seats in Personal Injury, International and Company Commercial.

Application Process

Applications should be submitted by the end of July prior to the year you wish your training contract to commence.

Applications should be made in writing with a covering letter and CV to:

Sue Stevenson
Human Resources Manager
Nockolds LLP
Market Square
Bishops Stortford
Herts CM23 3UZ

E-mail: sts@nockolds.co.uk

Successful candidates will be asked to attend interviews in October with a member of the Human Resource Team and 3 Partners.

"...the opportunity to work on high calibre cases."

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you accept applications from non-law students?

Yes, we prefer to recruit a mix of candidates with strong academics.

Can first year university students or graduates apply for a training contract?

You should apply one or two years before you wish to start your training contract so it would be too early for first year students.

If I have previous legal experience, can it count towards my training contract?

Yes! We appreciate and understand that future potential trainees may have relevant previous legal experience and therefore all "time to count" forms are considered during the training contract.

I wish to apply for paralegal work. Is this possible?

Yes, please send in your CV to sts@nockolds.co.uk

I have passed the Bar Vocational Course exams and wish to change direction to become a solicitor. Would you consider my application?

Yes, just send in your CV to sts@nockolds.co.uk but make it clear your reasons for changing direction.

How do you feel about taking a year out?

We welcome applications from all types of people and if you wish to take one year out, consider the year you wish to apply for.

I haven't had any work experience yet in a law firm. Will my application be down graded because of this fact?

No. We find that students often feel obliged to undertake vacation placements every year, or as often as they can, because it will look good on their CV. Vacation placements are good for you because they give you a good look at different firms. It also gives the firm a chance to interact with you. However, if you have done something else very interesting or challenging, we would like to see that on your CV.

Do you specify which electives trainees should take at law school?

No, you may sit whichever electives you prefer.

Do you have a preferred institution for the LPC/GDL?

No, again, we feel this is your decision especially in terms of location.

Do you pay fees and maintenance grants?

No, unfortunately not.

Does the firm organise any social events?

Yes! Work at Nockolds can be demanding, so it's important that you enjoy yourself and we have a genuinely sociable and fun culture. Events are organised by the firm, social committee and by individuals.

What are the people like?

Unstuffy, friendly but very focused on their work. We have always sought to hire people who have personality and a sense of humour to go with the required skills and commitment. Everyone is pleasant to deal with and this makes a good working environment.