

# NEW! Year-long Placement for all Students

A lot of emphasis is placed on the importance of links with industry at GMIT Letterfrack and all students are given the opportunity of undertaking a year-long work placement in a furniture company as part of their programmes. The Work Placement module involves students spending third year in a company within the furniture and wood manufacturing industry in Ireland or overseas. Placement companies can vary from large manufacturers to small workshops allowing students to choose their preferred sector.

## Value of Placements

Placements offer an excellent opportunity for students to gain invaluable first-hand experience of working in the furniture industry. Through Placements students broaden their understanding of enterprise operations and widen their professional network. Often Placements lead to job opportunities for students once their studies are completed.

## Where can I do my Placement?

GMIT Letterfrack support students arranging their Placements and are not confined to Ireland GMIT Letterfrack continues to create industry links around the world with companies that offer students exciting real life opportunities in a supportive and learning environment. Placements can be undertaken in companies throughout Europe, the USA and elsewhere.



# Placement Stories



Student: Ryan McNally

Company: MJM Superyacht Fit-out, Nice, France

## Why I Chose MJM Superyacht Fit-out?

Choosing a work placement company is never an easy decision especially considering that work placements can often carve the path to a career. I chose MJM because it is to the fore of the furniture industry and the size and scope of the company offers endless

opportunities for students to learn, develop and gain valuable experience. The quality and standard of work carried out by MJM along with the opportunity to work in France on board some of the finest Superyachts were all key to my decision.

## What am I learning?

Lots! Throughout the placement I developed further my skills in the areas of cabinet making and fine woodworking. I was also keen to be challenged and worked in areas specific to the yacht industry such as steak decking.

## How my placement benefitted me?

My placement in MJM was based primarily around workshop and onsite work and it helped me to hone my skills in these areas. The placement has also given me an excellent insight into the operational aspects of a large multinational company, something which is certain to be of benefit going forward.

## What are my career plans?

Ideally in the next few years I would like to follow the natural progression from the Wood Technology course in Letterfrack and be in a position as an Operations Manager or Productions Manager, but with endless opportunities and possibilities, who knows?



Student: Ann Horan

Company: Farrell's Office Furniture, Ireland

## Why I Chose Farrell's Office Furniture?

I was still quite unsure about what area of the industry I wanted to work in and I knew that Farrell's Office Furniture could offer a wide scope. When I was given the opportunity to do my placement in Farrell's I was delighted. Farrell's is

made up of two sectors; Office Furniture and Residential Furniture, with clients in Ireland and the UK.

## What am I learning?

During my placement I have been able to work on a number of different projects and it has been a challenging but also a very rewarding process. I was also able to work on a project within the residential sector which was extremely beneficial as I have been able to follow this project from the design and planning stages, to the manufacture of the furniture right through to the delivery of the units.

## How my placement benefitted me?

Learning new skills but also developing the skills learned at college and working with the different people has given me such invaluable experience and confidence. The staff at Farrell's have been both supportive but also trusting me with responsibility.

## What are my career plans?

I am now a lot clearer about where I can see my future career going.

# Employer Experience

Graduates from GMIT Letterfrack have excellent knowledge and skills that make them a great asset to our company both in Ireland and overseas.

Maureen Kearney, HR Manager,  
MJM Group, Newry, Co. Down



It always seems to revive our hunger and positivity when we see the level of passion for the development of students at GMIT Letterfrack. We have a number of graduates that we rate extremely highly who bring significant skills and creativity to our team.

Gerry Magee, Managing Director of  
Allwood Architectural Joinery