

Laura Moloney

Laurel the salon



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Having grown up with four older sisters, Laura was often the guinea pig for their make-up trials. This instilled in her a love of experimenting with beauty products and, by the time she reached primary school, she knew she wanted to be a beauty therapist.

Laura studied Beauty Therapy in Waterford College of Further Education and went on to work for various salons in Dublin and Tipperary.

She later completed a diploma in tutoring and, in 2014, she started working part-time as a beauty therapy tutor. The hours weren't enough to keep her busy, so Laura registered as a mobile therapist.

After building her clientele through Facebook, Laura was generating enough business to pay herself a regular wage and so she decided to take the next step and go it alone.

With the support and guidance of ACORNS Lead Entrepreneurs and participants, Laura has found a new base and, from August, Laurel the salon will be operating out of a three-story Georgian building in Irishtown, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

Laura has one employee working on the beauty side of the business and she will be contracting two hairdressers to take over the ground floor.

Always looking for ways to expand her business, Laura is planning to set up an online shop selling hair and beauty products used in the salon. She will also teach a six-week transition module in three Tipperary schools.

Starting next year, she is planning to run a variety of in-house workshops, such as the daddy and daughter package – teaching fathers top tips on how to brush, plait and tie-up their daughter's hair.