

## Edel Walsh

### *Edel Walsh Coaching & Consultancy*



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Experiencing serious illness during the pandemic prompted Edel Walsh to reassess her situation and to pursue something she had always wanted to do – supporting students through her own coaching business.

Edel, who is originally from Cork but based in Johnstown, Naas, Co Kildare, left her corporate role and set up Edel Walsh Coaching and Consultancy in February 2022.

The business helps accountancy students with their personal development and with reaching their academic potential while prioritising their mental health and wellbeing.

A student, exam and wellbeing coach, Edel has also worked as an accountant and as a lecturer – and she has written accountancy exams – so she felt well placed to put all of her experience together and run the business from her home in Kildare.

Edel started by simply googling whether there were such things as student and exam coaches. Finding very little evidence that they existed, she decided to go for it anyway.

The business experienced steady growth from the outset and growth has increased exponentially this year. She believes this is because when she started the business, she supported all types of students whereas it is now entirely focused on working with professional accountancy students.

Edel had been considering making that change to her business focus for some time. She says that the support of the ACORNS programme gave her the clarity to proceed with the decision.

She now works with three of the Big Four accountancy firms, the Irish Institute of Tax (ITI) and three of the biggest accountancy institutes in Ireland.

Edel's plan for the short to medium term is to be a leader in the professional accountancy exam support space and to grow her business into the UK and Northern Ireland.

*Providing early stage female entrepreneurs, living in rural Ireland, with the knowledge, support and networking opportunities to meet and even exceed their current aspirations.*



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
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