

The logo for 8x8, consisting of the numbers '8x8' in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

## Defining our future workforce with the Islington World of Work Programme

The 8x8 volunteering team was quick to offer their services **Islington Council** as part of their bid to supply the council with an **8x8 Contact Center** solution.

8x8 is committed to adding value to public sector social and environmental initiatives. As part of this commitment, 8x8 was delighted to open its doors to children of The Central Foundation Boys Schools through **Islington's World of Work** programme and supplied microcomputers to **Healthprom** a charity that supports refugee children in the borough.

### Islington's World of Work Programme

Islington's World of Work Programme connects young people with businesses and communities in the Borough of Islington, via schools.

8x8 used the World of Work Programme to invite a group of school children to their London Office and were naturally delighted when the Central Foundation Boys School, Islington accepted.

*“Since the World of Work careers enrichment programme launched in 2020, we have worked with an extensive range of businesses and organisations to deliver free and meaningful careers activities and experiences to Islington children and young people. This has resulted in us supporting Islington schools to achieve their careers education targets and empowering and enabling our young people to have clearer aspirations and increased confidence of the job market and pathways into careers.”* Darshna Dhokia, Youth Employment Partnerships Manager

The Central Foundation Boys School has a cohort of students studying a vocational IT qualification. During a day in the 8x8 office they gained an insight into the world of working in software development and the technical roles within the industry. A total of 18 children, 2 teachers and a World of Work representative were hosted by 8x8.

For more information, call **1 866 879 8647** or **+44(0)333 043 8888** or visit **8x8.com**.



#### Industry

Local Council

#### Headquarters

London, England

#### Website

<https://www.islington.gov.uk>

#### 8x8

Delivering value through ESG initiatives

#### Deliverables

- Adding value for our customers
- Digital inclusion
- ESG initiatives

**“Islington Council does Social Value really well because they know what they want and we were delighted to be able to facilitate volunteering through their World of Work Program.”**

Elizabeth Harris, ESG Co-ordinator 8x8

## Delivering digital inclusion

It has been fantastic to partner with Islington Council to deliver Social Value and support the young generation. When councils have the resources available to best utilise social value offerings from the private sector, and are able to direct us to where we can meet the needs of the community, it makes our job even more rewarding.

We were able to match our strategy with Islington and keep our focus on digital inclusion, something we feel really passionate about at 8x8.

Not only because we see the shortage of technical workers in the UK, but because access and use of information and communication technologies impact an individual's ability to participate and benefit from today's growing information society. It is critical to workforce development, education, healthcare, and civic participation. Digital inclusion promotes equality, social cohesion, and accessibility, all drivers of long-term prosperity.

### Islington's World of Work Programme and 8x8

The Central Foundation School for Boys were looking for a tech company that could provide insight into the world of software development and technical roles within the industry.

The children were greeted with a welcome talk that provided an overview of the company, followed by a tour of the office. Our willing team of volunteers from product management, development and engineering departments then organised the students into groups which rotated around various sessions to hear about the volunteer's role in the business, watch demonstrations and ask lots of questions.

Following the sessions, the children were treated to pizza and they enjoyed the pool table before rushing back to school for an afternoon of lessons.

### Team8s volunteering programme

Our Team8s (employees) eagerly volunteer time and knowledge taking part in opportunities to do something outside the norm of their working lives and 'give back' to the communities we are involved with. Volunteering is a positive and effective way to engage our workforce, providing added purpose, and an opportunity to share knowledge and to contribute to the world around us.



### What the students said:

*"Nothing could make the session better than it already was."*

*"The amount of roles and their purposes within the company and how they all interact with each other, it has developed my understanding of the working world in this industry."*

*"It showed me that there are more options within the jobs and how different they are and how they can be fun"*

*"You aren't restricted to only one career in the media industry, the skills you learn can generally help you get any job you want in that sector"*