

St Matthew Academy



Accountant giving tips

Feedback from St Matthew Academy

The impact that Urban Synergy has had on our school community is simply inspiring. To see some of our most disengaged students focussing on their future and engaging with Inspirational successful figures was invigorating for me as an educator.

I have almost been able to taste the change in attitude and perception towards their studies and a new found resolve amongst our students since working with Urban Synergy.

The passion and heart that Urban Synergy has is driven by the commitment to empowering the next generation of black leaders in the United Kingdom. As they say 'The heart of a volunteer is the strongest' and Urban Synergy have given the strong foundation on which our students can build upon.

I firmly believe as President Roosevelt said that "we cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future". In my opinion Urban Synergy is the living example of this philosophy.

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless. Urban Synergy are Priceless and Heaven sent.

Martin Nirsimloo, Vice Principal





"Urban Synergy are amazing they want the next generation to succeed by inspiring and giving us real life examples of success"

Elijah, 14

"That was a brilliant evening I feel that if they can do it so can I.
Thank you Urban Synergy"

Kunle, 15

"The main thing that I learnt from the speakers is that Determination and hard work are the keys to success. I am going to focus on my education and read the newspapers every day"

Patrick, 15

"I have never met so many successful people in my life and they gave up their time to meet and help me and my friends. Urban Synergy are amazing"

Gus, aged 15

"If they believe in us we can't fail"

Valance, 15



Architect giving tips



Football coach giving tips



"I met a Banker a Doctor and a Lawyer and they all have similar qualities, dedication and commitment to meet their dreams. I want to follow their lead"

Victor, 15

"I'm black, proud and Urban Synergy have given me a target to aim for"

Devon, 14

"I met a pilot tonight and I feel I can fly now too"

Jibow, 15

"Every student in the country should have this experience. I needed to wake up and they did that loudly"

OJ, 15

"I wanted to be a footballer but now have other ideas that I never thought possible before"

Dane 15

"Urban Synergy are wicked"

Rochelle, 12



Pilot giving tips



Barrister giving tips

London Underground Project Manager giving tips



Government REACH Role models in picture below



Urban Synergy 'Top Tips To The Top' Role Model Seminar An evening of inspiration

- What:** A meeting of minds – former *'Apprentice'* winner, leading Harley Street doctor, magazine editor-in-chief, music producer and chief economist give their inspirational top tips for success to London schoolboys, in an effort to defy stereotype of underachievement
- Where:** St Matthew Academy
- When:** Thursday 12th February 2009
- Time:** 6pm – 8.30pm
- Where:** St Matthew Academy, St Joseph's Vale, Blackheath, London, SE3 0XX

Background

A diverse group of year 10 schoolboys, intent on defying the negative stereotypes of under-achievement, has taken the enterprising step of inviting high profile role models from the black community to speak to them and 200 of their invited peers about achieving their dreams. With the support of their Vice Principal and youth mentoring organisation Urban Synergy, the boys will learn to think big and hear the secrets of success from 25 high profile black professionals. Among those speaking to the students are role models from the Government-backed REACH National Role Models programme run by Windsor Fellowship, and mentors from Urban Synergy. Speakers include:

- Tim Campbell, entrepreneur and former Sir Alan Sugar *'Apprentice'* winner
- Michelle Ogundehin, editor-in-chief, Elle Decoration
- Dr Charlie Easmon, Harley Street medical practice owner
- Trevor Williams, Chief Economist, *Lloyds TSB*
- Gary Green, Barrister, Took's Chambers
- Olu Ayoola, commercial airline pilot
- John Ferguson, Photographer, *Daily Mirror*
- Darren Joseph aka 'Target', music producer of Roll Deep, BBC 1extra DJ, Presenter and ex-St Matthew Academy pupil