

SBTV's Jamal Edwards Visits Paddington Academy

Local Entrepreneur Interviewed for BBC by Students

SBTV founder and CEO Jamal Edwards this week visited Paddington Academy and spoke to students as part of the BBC School Report initiative.

Jamal, who grew up locally on an estate in Acton, started SBTv in 2006 as a teenager and has grown the YouTube channel into a multimillion pound online youth broadcaster. The channel has gone on to make videos with popular music artists such as Nicki Minaj, Ed Sheeran and Jessie J, gaining over 212 million views in the process.

Two Paddington Academy students in Year 9, Lirak and Ryan, interviewed Jamal for BBC School Report. They were very keen to hear about the inspiration behind SBTv, whether Jamal had any tips for other budding entrepreneurs on starting a business, and what young people should be looking for if they want to become the next Jamal Edwards.

Speaking after the interview, 13 year old School Reporter Ryan said:

“Meeting Jamal was a great experience and it was great to get some advice for young people on getting into business. He was very down to earth and it’s inspiring to think that 10 years ago Jamal was just a kid from West London like us.”

Lirak, also 13, said:

“Working with the BBC has been fantastic! We have gained so many skills and received so much advice to share with our friends at school and take into our careers.”

Paddington Academy Principal, Mrs Oli Tomlinson, said:

“We always stress to students that there are many paths to a successful career and that, with dedication and a little luck, dreams and ideas can become one. Jamal and SBTv have really brought this to life for them.”

To view a clip of Lirak and Ryan’s BBC interview with Jamal Edwards, visit <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport/26758548>