

Onto the House of Commons!

Southwark MP Simon Hughes was so impressed with a school's social enterprise project he invited them to sell their wares at the House of Commons.

This week the MP met BTEC Business Studies students of Walworth Academy and heard how they marketed, budgeted and made £124 profits after being trained to sell ethical environmental friendly products into their community by the charity MyBnk.

He saw how the [Enterprise-in-a-Box](#) project gave pupils a taste of the world of social enterprise by doing it for real with [Kabloom](#) Seedboms, an urban guerrilla gardening product that regenerates brownfield sites. They presented on how they sold and told the story behind their goods, targeting teachers and fellow students after school and produced adverts and business plans that armed them with trading and soft skills.

Young people in the UK are currently three times more likely to be unemployed than adults and while more than half of the population would like to start their own business, less than 5% actually do. MyBnk is the UK's leading direct deliver of financial education and enterprise programmes. Since 2006 we have reached over 60,000 young people in more than 450 secondary schools and youth groups.

"I'm very impressed with the groups, I would like to offer them the opportunity to sell their products to myself and my colleagues in the Houses of Parliament, it's a really great idea and I really want to encourage them to continue selling." **Simon Hughes MP for Southwark.**

"It's important for people to be able to use these skills when they're older, it gives us a head-start for business and lets them know how money works. I really enjoyed how my team performed and sharing with that with our MP." **Michael, 15, Walworth Academy.**

"It's really good to bring MyBnk in for enterprise because it's different, we did it last year as well and it was really effective because MyBnk are so supportive of the school, they make the young people feel really comfortable and they interact well with them, the students here today are doing business studies so this will contribute to their unit 1 assignment and will lead them on to creating their own business plans which MyBnk sets the tones for." **Alicia Pennant, Business Studies teacher, Walworth Academy.**

About MyBnk

MyBnk is a charity who deliver financial and enterprise education directly to schools and youth organisations.

Together with young people we have created fun and interactive programmes on topics such as saving, budgeting and university finance. MyBnk also provides enterprise experiences using real money, and trains young people to run their own in-school online saving and lending schemes.

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