

## **EASTLEA COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP WITH BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON PAISNER**

### **About BCLP**

**BCLP** is a leading international law firm with a reputation for innovation in legal services. We have offices in the City of London and also in Abu Dhabi, Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Dubai, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Manchester, Moscow, Myanmar, Paris, Tel Aviv and Singapore, helping us meet the needs of clients in an increasingly internationalised market.

BCLP'S vision is to create an inclusive and inspirational culture where all of our people are valued, motivated and able to be themselves. We recruit, retain, reward and develop our people with regard to their abilities and contributions and without reference to their background, gender, ethnic origin, age, religion, sexual orientation, political belief or any disability. We are proud to have been ranked 8th in the inaugural [Social Mobility Employer Index](#), a joint initiative between the Social Mobility Foundation and the Social Mobility Commission, in partnership with the City of London Corporation.

### **BCLP and Eastlea Community School**

We have been working with Eastlea Community School since 2013, working in close collaboration with the schools' More Able Programme Manager to provide a range of programmes for some of their most talented students, with the aim of helping to develop their confidence and communication skills.

We designed our flagship 3 month BCLP Career Routes programme in conjunction with the school to provide, for 16 students each year, an insight into careers in the City and an opportunity to develop essential skills and raise aspirations, to help the students when applying to college and university, and for jobs.

We also take part in the Seven Day Challenge programme, designed to provide Year 10 and 11 students with a series of team challenges aimed at drawing out and developing characteristics in the students such as confidence, determination, organisation, grit, creativity, self-belief, perseverance, negotiation skills and team spirit. BCLP's contribution to the programme is "BCLPoly", a treasure-hunt style challenge in which students have to navigate the London Underground system and find their way to various cultural landmarks, completing tasks along the way and then design and deliver a presentation about their day to a BCLP audience.

We work closely with the school to identify other opportunities for involving students in the initiatives we run as part of our community and schools programmes. For example, in April 2017 a group of 10 Year 10 Eastlea students joined a team of volunteers from BCLP and one of our key clients, AIG at Body and Soul, a family oriented HIV charity in Clerkenwell. The group took part in a session on resilience and coping, to provide them with an insight on the theme of their task for the afternoon – helping to refresh and renovate the charity's Children's Centre.

"We really value our relationship with Eastlea and thoroughly enjoy working with the wonderful students, who always impress us with their enthusiasm, intellect and desire to make the most of the opportunities offered to them. I invariably receive glowing feedback from the BLP volunteers who work with the students on the various programmes we run with the school" - Alison Klarfeld, BCLP's Head of CR.