

Youth Voice places young people at the heart of The Switch's provision for Tower Hamlets. Students are invited to participate in a borough-wide youth advisory board focusing on careers development. Sessions provide a platform for feedback on what careers provision young people want and they hear from local employers on key employability topics.

### Project Reach



17

Students



5

Schools

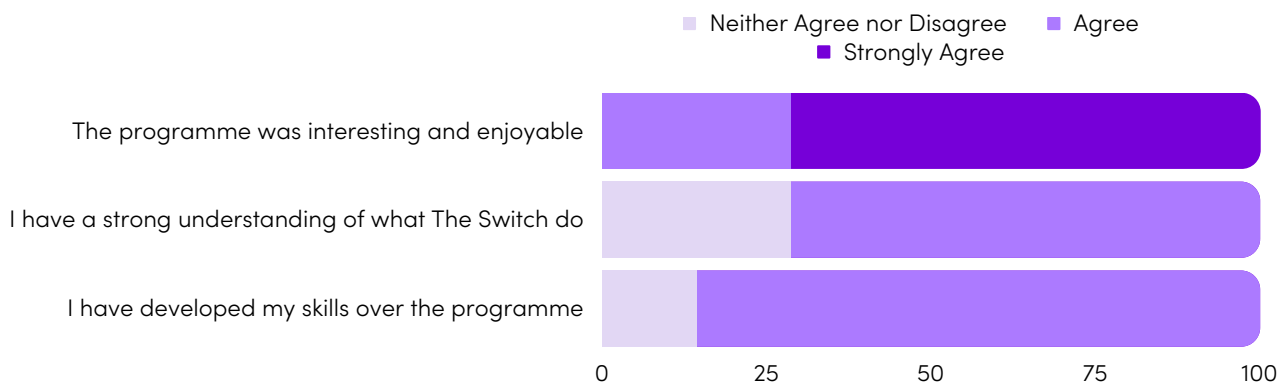


# 100%

feel empowered that they can influence The Switch's decision making

### Student Feedback

As a result of Youth Voice students told us...



On average...

**Students rated Youth Voice 5 out of 5.**



## A Year in Review

After a successful pilot in 2021–22, Youth Voice was launched as a new programme this year. It transforms students from just being service users to being co-creators, ensuring that what we offer is relevant for their age group, study plans and career aspirations.

This year, our cohort played a pivotal role in both reviewing existing programmes and in the development for new ones. Students reviewed our communication strategy with our Communications Coordinator – identifying ways we can improve our student engagement on our channels.

Students also got the opportunity to meet some professionals from KBC Bank and Toshiba – where they had an office tour and got to try some new products including printers and screens.

One key project the students participated in was testing our brand new Alumni Portal, which launched in Spring 2023. The session really brought to life the value of the programme for me personally, as students proved that sometimes our assumptions on what we think they want can be misguided.

During development our team had emphasised that the portal should be mobile friendly, believing students would primarily use it on their phones. However, students disagreed with us and told us “You don’t plan for your future on your phone!” Their feedback allowed us to concentrate our resources effectively towards desktop users.

It has been so lovely working with our Youth Voice members, seeing them grow in confidence and the new friendships that have flourished. I am so proud of their achievements. I share my heartfelt thanks to them for their contributions to The Switch.

**Abi Whitehouse, Youth Voice Project Lead**



I got given a leaflet when I went to mentoring by The Switch and I was really interested by it so I applied. Best decision ever!

**Langdon Park Student, 2022-23**

I enjoyed expressing my thoughts and opinions. How friendly and welcoming the team are!

**Morpeth Student, 2022-23**

