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Twenty students, ages five to 15, attended the first CoderDojo@MasterCard session in Dublin.

Highlights

- Our Dublin office recently launched CoderDojo@MasterCard.
- CoderDojo is a club led by employee-volunteers that introduces coding skills to young people in a fun way.
- To learn more about starting up a CoderDojo in your office, contact Eimear Stafford.

Dublin Office Launches CoderDojo@MasterCard

Story contact: Hagan Tharp, Debbie 📄 on: 5/2/2014

In support of growing an appreciation for technology skills among students, our Dublin team recently launched CoderDojo@MasterCard and hosted its initial session.

CoderDojo@MasterCard is a volunteer-led club that offers young people the opportunity to learn programming skills in interesting ways, socialize with peers and share their experiences working on a variety of projects. Membership is free and open to the friends and family of MasterCard employees between the ages of five and 17.

Twenty students, ages five to 15, attended the first session. Each of them expressed interest in returning for future events, a testament to the work done by MasterCard volunteers to support the initiative. Interest in the CoderDojo@MasterCard program has grown among employees as well, with more than 40 signing up to serve as mentors for future students.

A total of eight sessions will be held between April and June in Dublin. The team has partnered with the MasterCard *Women in Technology* group to examine opportunities to expand membership to local schools, with a focus on recruiting female students.

The Dublin team members responsible for this successful launch include:
- Eimear Stafford, project manager, Internet Operations and Web Administration
- Paul O'Regan, business leader, Software Engineering
- Ed Kilbane, business leader, Product Development
- Andrea Berdugo, consultant, Implementation – Testing
- Steve Flinter, business leader, Product Development
- Susanne Manning, senior engineer, Internet Engineering
- Claire Byrne, senior business assistant
- Louise Carolan, senior business assistant

"CoderDojo@MasterCard is a fun way to get young people interested in technology and a great example of the company's commitment to STEM education," says Eimear Stafford. "It's definitely something I wish was around when I was growing up."

The Dublin team is creating startup best practices, which will be shared with other offices within MasterCard looking to establish their own CoderDojos. If you are interested in additional information, please contact Eimear Stafford.

Tools

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Leroux, Johan 5/7/2014 3:50 AM
Great initiative! And learning experience for both! :-)

Doran-Houlihan, Maureen 5/6/2014 2:26 PM
Eimar, I'd like to challenge you to develop P2P videos we can put into MCU on what/how you teach coding to young people that can translate into offering this same experience for MasterCard employees who want to learn this also...let's talk!

Clyne, Ann-Marie 5/6/2014 6:52 AM
My niece Holly is really enjoying the sessions (she will be chuffed to hear that her photo is on MC Central!!!) Thanks and congratulations to Eimear and all the team for setting this up, I know a lot of hard work has gone into this initiative!

Whelan, Caitriona 5/6/2014 6:04 AM
Congratulations to the Dubin office for getting CoderDojo up and running at MasterCard.

Berdugo, Andrea 5/6/2014 4:37 AM
Thank you Eimear for taking the lead on this! It is a great experience and in my opinion we learn from the kids as much as they learn from us!

Flynn, Vincent 5/5/2014 12:49 PM
Well done to all involved. I see lots of happy faces on Thursday evenings and the kids seem to be enjoying it too..

Dean, Monica 5/5/2014 11:53 AM
Congrats to the Dublin team!!

Groarke, Peter 5/5/2014 7:41 AM
Well planned and executed - well done to Eimear, Paul and all of the volunteers.