

The Bytes Project receives £150,000 from the Santander Foundation

New funding from the Santander Foundation will support The Bytes Project to give 300 young people the ability to find, sort and manage financial information and services in all digital forms. This will increase their financial and digital literacy, empowering them to make positive financial decisions and access digital financial services. It will instil confidence in participants to apply digital and financial literacy in their own life and work, and with their newly gained skills, they will be equipped to support increased digital and financial literacy in others.

The Bytes Project has been working with the most disadvantaged young people in Northern Ireland for nearly three decades. We use youth work and technology to help young people transform their lives and give them the confidence and skills they need to change the world around them for good.

The funding awarded comes from the Santander Foundation, an independent grant making foundation funded and supported by Santander UK. The foundation is supporting The Bytes Project as part of a £4.8m funding programme to empower people digitally and financially across the UK. Stephen Dallas, CEO at The Bytes Project “we are acutely aware of the need for young people to develop their financial and digital skills across Northern Ireland. We also know that young people want to be able to access digital equipment in community hubs to enable them better to develop these skills. This programme will have a phenomenal impact on young people. Bytes, working with Santander, will make digital devices available for young people and provide opportunities to develop financial and digital skills with the support of peers. Key to our programme will be young people supporting young people through our network of youth hubs across Northern Ireland, focusing on locations with limited youth services”.

Judith Moran, the Santander Foundation Chair said, “We’re delighted to be working alongside and supporting The Bytes Project, with their expertise and approach this funding will positively change the lives of 300 people.

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Notes to Editors:

About Santander Foundation

We are the charity of Santander UK. We’re an independent foundation regulated by the charities commission, we’re proud to hold a close and purposeful working relationship with our corporate donor, Santander UK.



Santander UK Plc donate an annual contribution to the Santander Foundation, we invest these profits by offering grants across the UK aimed at empowering people facing disadvantage and inequalities with the digital and financial capabilities to prosper.

We also match fund the donations raised by colleagues across Santander UK Plc to charities of their choice.

Over the last two years we have invested over £5m to charities across the UK through our strategic funding programme the Financial + Digital Empowerment Fund, and our matched donations programme with Santander UK staff. This funding is supporting over 78,000 people across the UK.

We're also investing in learning; to understand how systems, practice and policies can contribute to effective change and move people closer to prosperity.