

Getting more women into the tech sector

Investment Case Study

Asset Class: Private Equity (Targeted Opportunities Portfolio)

Location: UK

One of the companies our asset manager Palatine invests in is Back2Work Group, which is the leading, national adult learning and pre-employment training provider.

Back2Work specialises in delivering intensive training courses to help the long-term unemployed return to work, retrain or reskill. The business supports more than 10,000 people with training every year. In June 2021 Back2Work acquired Just IT Training, a provider of IT and digital apprenticeships and skills 'boot camps'.

Mickelia Morris benefitted from a Just IT Training, Skills Bootcamp in Software Development and here we share a small selection of her positive experience.

'Before starting the Skills Bootcamp, I had no prior tech experience and I had never written any code. Once I tried Codecademy; which was suggested to me at one of the Just IT webinars, I instantly enjoyed it. I love the instant gratification you get from creating something or to just solve a problem. I wanted to do the bootcamp because I wanted to learn more about this industry and learn the fundamentals of web development which I would say I have succeeded in doing.

The bootcamp has helped increase my confidence when speaking to groups of people, especially when speaking about my own work and projects. I feel the bootcamp has given me the tools and information to really kickstart my career in tech, I now know how to continue my learning independently and confidently apply for certain roles based on what I have learnt so far, which would be an entry level role or an apprenticeship.'

Mickelia also describes the positive contribution of female role-models in technology and the importance of early training for girls and women.

