LIVE FROM LONDON: BUSINESS



Dress code

Interviewer: Today we are talking to people about dress codes.

Describe what you're currently wearing.

Baiba: Just a, just a simple dress.

Kieran: In fact, I am wearing chinos, a blue jumper and blue shirt. So, yeah, pretty ... pretty smart-casual.

Vivek: Hahaha ... business-casual apparently. So it's a shirt, with cufflinks and some trousers. I ... yeah, I don't usually wear that look.

Chris: Well, I'm currently wearing blue chinos, brown leather belt, blue striped shirt, wedding ring and leather watch.

Interviewer: Does your office have a dress code?

Vivek: No. So it's... very relaxed. We actually ask people to come in as relaxed as possible, so jeans, t-shirts. Obviously we don't say come in shorts or flip-flops or anything like that. To be fair, if it's really hot, we don't mind – as long as we're not meeting clients – but generally speaking, we are credible from what we say rather than what we wear. That's the kind of ethos. It's really weird because today I have to go to couple of pitches and they're very big corporate clients and, I'm - everybody else is in a suit, with a tie; I've decided to go with a shirt, without a tie.

Tolani: I wouldn't say we have a dress code per se. We tend to dress very formally at times because we are outside meeting, you know, partners and customers so we want to put the best version of ourselves forward, but on typical days, well ... we come in, it's ... it tends to be casual so, you know, jumpers, jeans are acceptable as well.

Jenny: Not really. It's just when we go out to see clients. So, I work in a wealth management space. A lot of people are suited and booted so, when I go out to see clients, I would be wearing more formal clothes.

Interviewer: What do you normally wear to work?

Vivek: A pair of jeans, trainers and a sweat top or a t-shirt.

Asif: I don't have a normal wear-to-work outfit. I normally wear what's appropriate for my day. So, for example, if I'm meeting someone from the government, if I'm meeting someone from a big bank or a big company, I've got to dress appropriately. And that means ... that kind of means dress the way they dress and I think there's probably some psychology behind that, which is people often feel more comfortable talking to people that resemble them in some way. So... yeah, so smart stuff if I'm having smart day, casual stuff if I know that I can just be locked in my desk on the computer all day.

Anne: Dresses. But casual or not too... I prefer to wear dresses than suits or this kind of thing.

Tolani: So ... it depends on the day. So when I am meeting clients and meeting partners, I'll dress, you know, wear a nice work dress or a work jacket, trousers, a blouse. But on less formal events, then I tend to wear, you know, something smart-casual, I would say.

