

30 January 2012

Press Release

CRC TAKES APPRENTICESHIP WEEK MESSAGE OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

Cambridge Regional College will be celebrating National Apprenticeship Week with a host of events – from talks and bacon butties for builders to 'have a go' activities for shoppers.

The college, which has one of the most successful apprenticeship programmes in the country with more than 2,000 apprentices currently in training, will be taking the apprenticeship message out into the community for the special week.

Schools are being invited to celebrate with fun workshops and teach-ins about apprenticeships and the dos and don'ts of a successful job interview. And businesses are being offered a fees waiver if they take on an apprentice during the week.

Laraine Moody, head of CRC's apprenticeship programmes, said Apprenticeship Week was a great opportunity to tell the public and employers about the advantages of apprenticeships.

"We are going out into the community to let people know what a fantastic option apprenticeships can be for businesses and young people," she said.

"We are sending out 50 apprenticeship packs to 50 schools in the region with fun activities to celebrate Apprenticeship Week and we will also be visiting six schools for special workshops.

"We hope shoppers will also enjoy the week with events at the Grafton shopping centre – including a pop-up barbers' shop where they can have their hair cut.

“We are also offering employers the chance to save up to £600 by waiving fees for many of our apprenticeship programmes during the week.”

The events kick off with talks and free bacon butties for customers at Ridgeons in Cromwell Road on Monday, when apprenticeship advisers will be on hand to talk to employers.

On Wednesday, shoppers at the Grafton centre will be invited to have a go at brickwork and painting and decorating activities – supported by the EU’s European Social Fund - pick up advice on returning to work, and have their hair cut by barbering apprentices. And on Thursday, CRC will be taking the apprenticeship message to Addenbrooke’s hospital with a stand in the main concourse.

National Apprenticeship Week, which runs from February 6 to February 10, was set up to highlight the talent and skills of apprentices to employers and the public, and the advantages of employing and supporting apprentices in their workplace.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES

For more information, please contact Lynn O’Shea, Communications & PR Manager, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cambridge Regional College is one of the largest providers of full-time further education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has more than 4,000 full-time and 6,000 part-time students, coming from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk. Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the eastern region.