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Press Release

MAJOR NEW CRC LEARNING CENTRE PLANNED FOR CAMBRIDGE

A ground-breaking £6million teaching centre for secondary school pupils and college students wishing to study for an innovative new Diploma course is to be built at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge.

The Cambridge Centre for Applied Learning is the result of a partnership between Cambridge Regional College, Cambridge University Hospitals and Cambridgeshire County Council, and is expected to be completed next year.

The project will be home to teaching programmes run by CRC, providing on site facilities for delivering the new Society, Health and Development Diploma, an applied learning qualification for 14 to 19 year-olds.

It will be built in a central part of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, close to the main hospital, with part of the building being used for NHS staff training.

Plans for the development have been submitted to Cambridge City Council's planning department, and it is hoped that construction will start this autumn.

The new four-storey centre, one of just a handful of national Diploma centres planned across the country, will be a centre of excellence. Around 150 students are expected to enrol on the course in the first two years.

Cambridge Regional College will project-manage and run the learning programmes, which will be led by Pam Byrd, the head of CRC's Care, Health and Early Years Academy.

She said: “This is a major new development which will provide an inspiring learning centre for students who want to develop a career in the health and care sector. Its position, right in the centre of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, will also bring considerable benefits to the students.”

The centre will be funded by a Government grant delivered through Cambridgeshire County Council.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact:

Lynn O’Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

Pam Byrd, Head of Care, Health and Early Years Academy at Cambridge Regional College, on 01223 418452 or email pbyrd@camre.ac.uk

Rachel Northfield, Associate Director, Strategic Projects, Cambridge University Hospitals on 01223 217921 or email Rachel.northfield@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

For more information on the SHD Diploma, see <http://shd.skillsforhealth.org.uk/page>

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in 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.