

28 February 2011

Press Release

CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL COLLEGE WINS GOLD FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY

Cambridge Regional College has been awarded a prestigious Gold standard for its commitment to equality – scoring an outstanding 95 per cent in a rigorous audit.

The award places the College in the top 10 per cent of organisations in the country for its equality achievements in terms of commitment, training, monitoring, knowledge, recruitment and HR processes.

The College underwent an extensive investigation into its work with students, staff and suppliers to receive the top Committed 2 Equality Gold Award accreditation as an education provider and employer.

CRC Principal Anne Constantine said she was absolutely delighted that the College had been awarded such an outstanding mark in the assessment.

“The Gold award is a wonderful recognition of our commitment to equality and I’m very proud of all our staff and students who have helped us attain it,” she said.

“We put equality at the heart of everything we do at Cambridge Regional College. We monitor our students and staff to make sure we act fairly and provide good opportunities for success. We use our equality statement to let staff, students, suppliers and partners know we are committed to equality and won’t countenance any discriminatory behaviour.”

CRC Quality Manager Jane Tulloch, who led the work on the bid for accreditation, said rigorous checks had been carried out on systems in place at the College during the six-week process.

“We submitted evidence to the auditors, they looked at our website and talked to staff, governors, our HR department and students. They said they were particularly impressed by the feedback from the students, and told us it was very clear that everybody they spoke to knew the importance of equality to the College,” she said.

Keys areas where the College passed with flying colours included the awareness of equality throughout the College, recruitment processes and relations with suppliers.

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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 the second largest provider 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. 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. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the Eastern Region.