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Press Release

JOB SWAP SHOWS THAT APPRENTICESHIPS CAN BE PATH TO THE TOP

Young Apprentices at Cambridge Regional College found themselves in the hot seat when they swapped jobs with their managers for a day to mark National Apprenticeship Week.

The Apprentices, all employed by the College, audited reports, took the chair at team meetings, planned high-profile promotional events and installed and upgraded technical equipment.

Meanwhile, the managers had to face their own “Alan Sugar” moment when Apprentice Nile Smith summoned them all to the boardroom and demanded to know the top qualities of a good manager.



“You’re hired!” Apprentice Nile Smith turns the tables on managers.

Their answers - supportive, a good motivator and organiser, inspirational and capable of understanding - were the top choices which saved them all from being “fired”.

The special day celebrated the talents and skills of Apprentices and helped show that Apprenticeships can lead right to the top – following inspirational examples such as CRC’s Head of Finance Charlotte Skinner, who started her career as an Apprentice.

Anne Constantine, Principal of CRC, said the day had gone extremely well, helping to highlight the success of Apprenticeship programmes within the College.

“We employ around 40 apprentices at Cambridge Regional College in many different areas of the College, including IT, Human Resources, Marketing and Finance,” she said.

“We held the Job Swap day to show that an Apprenticeship can be the path to the top. It was also a great way to help Apprentices understand the roles of their managers – some of whom were themselves Apprentices.”

The special day was part of a week of events at the College to mark National Apprenticeship Week, including a gala dinner for Catering Apprentices at The Park Restaurant.

The College, which has one of the most successful Apprenticeship programmes in the country, works in partnership with more than 400 regional employers and over 1,000 Apprentices.

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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.