

28 January 2011

Press Release

## **CAMBRIDGE MP BACKS APPRENTICESHIPS IN VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL COLLEGE**

**Cambridge MP Julian Huppert described Apprenticeships as a “fantastic scheme” when he visited Cambridge Regional College today.**

He said it was important to provide a skilled workforce for the future and praised the work being done at the College.

Mr Huppert met Apprentice plumbers in the Construction Academy, along with lecturer Paul Hargrove – who taught top UK Apprentice Lee Patrick – and agreed with them that investment in skills was very important.



MP Julian Huppert with CRC Principal Anne Constantine, lecturer Paul Hargrove and Level 3 Apprentice plumbers

"I think Apprenticeships are a fantastic scheme and a great way to learn skills," he said. "We desperately need more houses and we need people to build them. It is important to develop skills and CRC is doing a very good job."

Mr Huppert, who was at the College to meet Principal Anne Constantine, was introduced to the intricacies of the back boiler by the group of Level 3 Apprentices and admitted he was "not very good around the house".

His visit came as the College prepares for Apprenticeship Week, from February 7 to 11, when CRC will be holding a series of activities to celebrate and promote Apprenticeships.

Among the events is an Apprentices Dinner on February 7 for Catering students, their employers and families, with chefs competing to cook the dishes for the gala menu.

On Tuesday, February 8, managers and Apprentices throughout the College will be swapping jobs for the day to help show that Apprenticeships can lead to the very top.

For more information, see [www.camre.ac.uk](http://www.camre.ac.uk)

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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](mailto: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.