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Press Release

CRC LECTURER PLEDGES TO RAISE £10,000 FOR STREET CHILDREN IN MARRAKESH

A Cambridge Regional College sports lecturer has pledged to raise £10,000 to help street children in Marrakesh after leading students on a charity trip to the country.

Rob Metcalfe says the visit was a “life-changing experience” and has set himself a year-long challenge to raise the funds needed to provide vital shelter and education for abandoned children.



Rob Metcalfe with CRC students and the children they helped.

He plans to organise annual charity visits to Marrakesh by students after the success of last month's initial trip, when young trainee sports leaders spent a week working with underprivileged children.

"The students have done voluntary work locally before, but this was something completely new to them. They were really out of their comfort zone, but they handled it brilliantly," said Rob.

"Some of the children had been picked up from the streets where their families had left them to beg. We did painting, dancing and sport with them, and they were amazing.

"It was a life-changing experience. I fell in love with the place and the students were really moved by the children they met. We want to help provide the charities with better space so they can provide more help where it's really needed."

"Next year we'll go out again, and I want to take £10,000 with us. We're going to have a year of fund-raising, and we're hoping to make a real difference out there."

During their seven days in the country, the 14 CRC students worked alongside staff in three orphanages in Marrakesh and also organised sports activities for the children.

Next year, Rob, CRC's Sports Leader Co-ordinator, and Kate Costa, CRC's Assistant Academy Manager of Sports, Leisure and Science, plan to include newly-qualified sports leaders in the trip to train some of the street children as sports leaders.

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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

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. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest Train to Gain contracts in the Eastern Region.