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## **CRC OFFERS RANGE OF NEW DIPLOMAS**

23 April 2008

**Cambridge Regional College has won approval to extend its delivery of the new range of Diploma qualifications from September 2009. The Diplomas are designed for students who are 14-19 years old, and are part of the Government initiative to provide young people with practical learning opportunities that combine active hands-on learning with robust thinking and learning skill development, contextualised in the envelope of specific industry/vocational contexts.**

As part of a Cambridgeshire Area 14-19 Partnership, a consortium of Cambridgeshire schools and colleges, Cambridge Regional College will be delivering the first of these Diplomas, Creative & Media Industries from September 2008. The College has also won approval to deliver a further 5 Diplomas from September 2009; Construction & Built Environment, IT, Society Health & Development, Hair & Beauty, and Environmental & Land-based Studies. The College also has conditional approval for a two further Diplomas for delivery from September 2010; Business Administration & Finance, and Engineering.

Cambridge Regional College is also part of another successful Diploma consortium in North West Essex that will be offering; IT, Society Health & Development, and Business Administration & Finance from 2009.

Laurence Wells, Associate Principal at CRC, explains: “The new structure of Diplomas will be introduced over the next three years and it is the government policy to ensure that by 2013 all 14-19 students will have an entitlement to study any of these seventeen Diplomas. The new Diplomas are aimed at developing skills that will be valued by employers and universities now, and give students the ability to learn and un-learn skills as new technologies roll-out and new career opportunities develop”.

The College and consortium schools had to pass through a rigorous national application process in order to be given the go-ahead to offer these new qualifications and only those able to demonstrate their ability to provide the highest quality educational experience were successful.

From this September, young people in the Cambridgeshire region will be able to start enjoying the benefits of these new qualifications at Cambridge Regional College.

The new qualifications will be available at three levels: Foundation (equivalent to 5 GCSEs A\*-G); Higher (equivalent to 9 GCSE A\*-C); and Advanced (equivalent to 4.5 A-levels).

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**MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information or to arrange an interview with Laurence Wells, please contact Lara Jodin, Marketing Manager on 01223 532225 or Dora Lillywhite on 01223 532317.

**NOTE TO EDITORS**

The Cambridgeshire Area 14-19 Partnership is a consortium of Cambridgeshire schools and colleges.