



***PRESS RELEASE! PRESS RELEASE! PRESS RELEASE!***

**CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL COLLEGE ENCOURAGES  
STUDENTS TO BE SAFETY AWARE**

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008

**Students at Cambridge Regional College (CRC) are being encouraged to look at various aspects of how they can protect themselves from danger, in Personal Safety Week, which is running until Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November.**

The College has arranged for a series of different agencies to come to the College and talk to groups of students about the services they provide. There will be information stands in the mall of the Science Park campus (SPC) providing information, advice and the opportunity to raise questions and any concerns they may have about their own personal safety. Cameo Early Intervention Services is an NHS service for people aged 17-35 who are experiencing a first episode of psychosis. They provide information on the signs of mental illnesses, as they aim to treat problems early to have an improved chance of recovery.

Throughout the week, there are various sessions booked in the Student Lounge at the SPC where invited guests from each organisation talk to students about their views and attitudes towards protecting themselves against crime. On Monday "Drinksense" and the Police visited. "Drinksense" is a registered charity which provides information & advice and carries out preventative work with alcohol related problems. Tuesday's session was run by the "Suzy Lamplugh Trust", the UK's only charity to provide the

community with practical support and personal safety guidance to reduce their fear of violence and crime.

John Porter, the Trust's Training and Resources Manager said, "Personal Safety is Common sense, uncommonly applied. I think events like these at CRC are great for encouraging young people to talk about issues such as their own safety. I have been pleased with the comments from the students – they seem to be quite savvy already, through information sessions in tutorials etc. We hope to encourage young people just to think a little bit more when planning nights out, addressing issues such as transport home and keeping watch over their drinks etc".

The Wednesday session is held by "Diverse", one of the longest established HIV and sexual health charities in the UK, which encourages better sexual and emotional health, whilst tackling stigma and discrimination.

CRC has invited 500 female students to be vaccinated against Human Papilloma Virus (to help prevent cervical cancer) on Thursday. The College accepted the offer from Public Health to participate in the vaccination programme. Sue Smith, Health and Welfare Manager at the College said, "This is a great opportunity for students to take advantage of. HPV vaccination has the potential to reduce the risk of disease in young women".

Friday's information session is run by "Addaction", an organisation whose aim is to turn around the lives of thousands of young people, preventing them from becoming long-term drug addicts and alcohol abusers, and improving the lives of thousands more family members and the wider community.

At the City Centre campus, there were sessions at lunchtimes about Fire & Safety in the Home on Tuesday, and "Drinksense" on Wednesday.

Sarah Clarke, Curriculum Quality Leader, Personal Tuition, said, “The College is working closely with a large number of external agencies who provide our students with information that focuses on their own safety. It is essential that young people have an awareness of the issues which relate to their own personal safety and that of others. Safeguarding of children and young people is everyone’s responsibility and this week evidences the positive working relationships we have with other professionals and agencies locally”.

**- ENDS -**

**MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information, please contact Lesley Devaney, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email [ldevaney@camre.ac.uk](mailto:ldevaney@camre.ac.uk)