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Press Release

PRINCE'S TRUST VOLUNTEERS CREATE SENSORY GARDEN FOR SCHOOL

Children and young people at Meldreth Manor School will soon be enjoying a beautiful sensory garden, thanks to the efforts of a Prince's Trust team from Cambridge Regional College.

The team of 12 volunteers have built a new flowerbed and filled it with plants, paid for by money they raised on an 11-mile sponsored walk in aid of the school for children and young people with high support needs.

The volunteers spent seven days working on the project, clearing away rubbish and weeds and transforming the garden with shrubs and newly-painted fencing – even raising enough money to pay for lighting in the garden.

The cost of the project was financed from £600 raised by the walk and a raffle held at CRC, with the remaining money donated to the school to buy equipment.



Hard at work – the Prince's Trust team



John McLachlan, Head of Care at Meldreth Manor, said the school was very grateful for the help given by the volunteers.

“We have been incredibly impressed with the work the Prince’s Trust volunteers have done. They have created a great garden for our pupils, with a shaded area and a sensory garden all in one,” he said.

CRC Prince’s Trust Team Leader Jamie Jackson said the team had worked hard on the garden, transforming it in just seven days.

“The volunteers wanted to do a project to benefit the community and voted to help Meldreth Manor school because they thought it was such a worthwhile cause,” he said.

“They raised the money with a gruelling sponsored walk – which was particularly difficult as one of the team is in a wheelchair – and a raffle and collection day at CRC. They had some great support and raised over £600 which has paid for the sensory garden with plenty left over to buy something for the school.

“Everything in the garden has been carefully chosen, and we hope the pupils will really enjoy sitting in the garden.”

The Prince’s Trust Team Programme focuses specifically on getting young people aged 16-25 into employment or further training. It enables people to develop team-building, confidence, personal skills and skills for employment through project work in the community and personal development activities. Cambridge Regional College runs three Prince’s Trust Team Programmes a year, starting in September, January and May.

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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 one of the largest providers of full-time further education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region, with 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.