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Press Release

## **SAFEGUARDING MONTH SPREADS THE 'STAY SAFE' MESSAGE AT CRC**

Anti-bullying plays, road safety messages and 'stay safe' workshops are all on the agenda at Cambridge Regional College in November as part of Safeguarding Month.

The programme of events highlights dangers facing students and helps show them how to deal with potential problems – everything from how to stay safe when a car breaks down to self defence taster sessions.

The special month has been organised by CRC's Safeguarding Co-ordinator Lisa Pollitt, one of just a handful of full-time safeguarding specialists in further education.

"The message is all about keeping safe, knowing where to go for help and taking the right steps to safeguard yourself," said Lisa, who has been working with a number of organisations, including the police and fire service, to set up the programme.

"This is the first time we have had a Safeguarding Month at CRC and students and staff have been getting very involved and taking part in workshops and 'stay safe' taster sessions.

"Safeguarding is about far more than child safety – it's about staying safe in all areas of your life and being able to get the right advice and support to think about what you're doing."

During the month, students will be shown a powerful anti-bullying play – to coincide with Anti-Bullying Week – and have a chance to see the road safety play "For My Girlfriend", written by CRC lecturer Sarah Borley and performed by students.

The play has proved a big success in schools throughout the region, and has been invited to tour to Holland and Northern Ireland.

Other events include a visit from Cambridgeshire's new Chief Constable Simon Parr, who will be visiting the college for the first time on November 15 and talking to students, sports health checks, workshops about staying safe online, and a visit by the fire service.

During Road Safety Week – from November 22 to 26 – there will also be a safe car workshop for young women, focusing on what to do if a car breaks down when they're on their own, and role play sessions on buying and driving unsafe cars..

All through the month, there will also be exhibitions and displays on safeguarding, art workshops, competitions and questionnaires to gather students' views.

“Safeguarding covers just about every part of our daily lives and we want to spread the message that helping to keep yourself safe should be second nature for everyone,” said Lisa.

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#### **MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

For more information, please contact:

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#### **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 work-based training contracts in the Eastern Region.