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LOCAL COLLEGE COURSE EXCELS IN HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE INTO TRAINING AND EDUCATION

26 June 2009

The Entry to Employment (E2E) course at Cambridge Regional College (CRC) is going from strength to strength, with recent success stories coming from new links with Saffron Walden Connexions.

The E2E provision attracts suitable learner referrals, from partners across Cambridgeshire and surrounding counties. In addition, a new affiliation with learners from the Saffron Walden area is under development.



The group of young people signed up for a Pre-E2E Experience

CRC runs the E2E course at its Cherry Hinton Learning Centre. The programme is targeted at young people who are neither in employment or training and aims to be a useful stepping stone onto a full time course, employment or Apprenticeship. The training is interesting and varied with a mixture of classroom and workshop based learning, one to one sessions, group activities and vocational work placements.

This year, in collaboration with the Saffron Walden Essex Connexions service, fourteen young people signed up for a Pre E2E experience, which consisted of a six week programme tailored to their needs and providing relevant employment and College course information.

The first few weeks of the course covered a variety of ice breaker activities, careers guidance, interview techniques, first aid and health & safety certificates. Due to the level of interest and enthusiasm on behalf of the young people, the progression onto the full E2E programme happened very quickly with 13 of the young people readily embarking on the journey to the Learning Centre in Cambridge to continue their learning programme.

Cathy Bayford, the Programme Area Manager for E2E said, "It is inspiring to see the enthusiasm & commitment of these young people. They have embraced this opportunity and are already achieving so much, we are proud to be handing out so many certificates!"

The young people who have made the successful transition are now working towards a range of qualifications including Painting & Decorating, Motor Vehicle Maintenance, Office & Reception and IT, along with certificates in Numeracy & Literacy, some of which have already been successfully completed.

All learners on E2E are entitled to the full £30 a week EMA and travel costs are reimbursed when the College bus is not available. The E2E programme is a roll on, roll off course, offering monthly intakes for young people. It is expected to last on

average 22 weeks and it is intention is they will progress into employment, an Apprenticeship or further education.

There will be an open day for anyone interested in finding out more about this course and other opportunities available to young people, on Tuesday 7 July from 1.30 – 5pm at the Faircroft Youth Centre, Saffron Walden.

For more information, please contact Cathy Bayford, on 01223 458256 or Saffron Walden Connexions on 01799 581670.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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