

5 May 2010

Press Release

GREEN CANDIDATE DIGS IN WITH YOUNG GARDENERS

Green Party candidate Tony Juniper wasn't afraid to get his hands dirty when he visited young horticulturalists working on a sustainable garden at Cherry Hinton yesterday.



Green Party parliamentary candidate Tony Juniper with staff and students at Cherry Hinton

He picked up a fork and helped out with a bit of weeding as he chatted to students on an Entry to Employment course at the Cherry Hinton Learning Centre run by Cambridge Regional College.

And he was impressed when he heard that the young learners have also created special sensory and sustainable gardens at Milton Country Park, both open to the public.

The parliamentary candidate, who visited the main CRC campus last week, was at Cherry Hinton to find out more about the breadth of education provision in the city.

He told staff: “We need local establishments like this which help reach those who are not served by the mainstream system and slip through. It is in the interest of the whole society.”

The E2E course helps students get back into education and employment with a range of vocational courses alongside literacy and numeracy teaching, to develop skills and confidence as a stepping stone to a job, Further Education or an Apprenticeship.

The success of the scheme is helping reduce the number of young people not in employment, education or training - NEETs - in East Anglia. Training is varied, with a mix of classroom and workshop-based learning, group activities and one-to-one sessions.

Cathy Bayford, Programme Area Manager, said extra money had been received for E2E learners to get involved in Youth Action to benefit the community, resulting in the work on the special gardens at Milton Country Park.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact Lynn O’Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

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 Trains to Gain contracts in the Eastern Region.