

PRESS RELEASE! PRESS RELEASE! PRESS RELEASE!

CRC LAUNCHES YOUNG APRENTICESHIP IN ENGINEERING

Tuesday 16th September 2008

Cambridge Regional College (CRC) has recently been awarded funding from the Learning and Skills Council to run the first Young Apprenticeship in Engineering Programme in Cambridge.

The Young Apprenticeship scheme is a two year programme for 14-16 year olds supported by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and the Department for Education and Skills (DfES). It is aimed at capable and motivated pupils who would like the chance to experience workplace life in a supported way and who will benefit from building a strong foundation before moving on to an Apprenticeship at 16 or another progression route of their choice.

The programme is designed to benefit local employers too, by putting their needs at the heart of the drive to close the skills gap through the development of a first-class system of vocational and technical learning. The new programme being led in this area by Cambridge Regional College aims to enable local employers to become involved in shaping the workforce of the future, by offering able and motivated pupils the chance to get a taste of real work alongside their school studies. The Young Apprenticeship in Engineering is the first course of its kind in Cambridge and will be running from 2008 to 2010. Young Apprenticeship programmes will be available in Cambridgeshire in a range of subjects from 2009 and local employers are encouraged to get in touch with Cambridge Regional College now to find out how they can be involved.

The Young Apprenticeship in Engineering programme in 2008 is being run by CRC in partnership with Linton Village College, Swavesey Village College, The Manor Community College, Impington Village College and Sawston Village College. Thanks to support from the Learning and Skills Council, this new programme has been launched in Cambridgeshire with a cohort of 21 students from these local partnership schools. The students will be working towards a BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Engineering being delivered by Linton Village College, who have a breadth of expertise in this area and who have been an outstanding Business and Enterprise School since 2003. Students will also spend time with local employers where they will build their knowledge of engineering and gain an understanding of real work issues, time-management and social interaction in the adult world. Organisations involved in the work experience aspect of the programme will be able to promote the specialist skills needed in their sector, enhance awareness about their business and help invest in the next generation of engineering employees and entrepreneurs.

To mark the launch of this new Young Apprenticeship in Engineering in Cambridgeshire, a full day event was held at Linton Village College on Thursday 11th September and was attended by participating students, their parents, school representatives and local employers. During the day students were encouraged to work together to complete complex tasks, learnt about the foundations of Business and Enterprise and were also taught interview techniques to prepare them for their work placements.

If you are interested in hosting a Young Apprentice from the 2008 cohort or would like to be involved in providing work related engineering experiences then Cambridge Regional College would like to hear from you. We aim to make the arrangements as simple as possible for yourself and your organisation and have the facilities to support you every step of the way. For an informal discussion on how you can get involved this year or in future years, please call us on 01223 226374 or email sveitch@camre.ac.uk

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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