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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: 03/12/2020

TITLE: Construction Youth Trust and North Kent College collaborate to support students remotely to gain construction qualifications

CONTENT : 26 construction students from North Kent College are taking part in an innovative online course delivered by Construction Youth Trust to complement their college learning by gaining industry recognised qualifications.

For young people aspiring to construction trade careers, an essential stepping stone on their employment journey is attaining a Level 1 Health & Safety in a Construction Environment qualification and their CSCS card.

In the current COVID-19 climate, it is more important than ever to ensure young people are fully equipped with the necessary skills and qualifications to make a successful transition from education to the working world. With the support of Construction Youth Trust, North Kent College are taking steps to ensure that their students have the best possible chance to achieve their career aspirations.

Derek Rutherford, Curriculum Manager North Kent College, Construction Crafts "We'd like to thank both Donna Jones, Senior Programme Manager and Julie Wilson, Schools and Programme coordinator at the Construction Youth Trust, for giving our students the opportunity to start their careers on the best possible footing. Not only will our students gain their qualifications in carpentry or painting and decorating, but the CYT's National Lottery Funded programme gives them a Level 1 qualification in Health and Safety, and crucially their CSCS Card which allows them to start work on construction sites. Ordinarily students would have to pay to sit their CSCS Card qualification and exam and at a time when 16-24 years old have been hit harder by Covid-19 than any other age group in terms of employment, this extra help from the Construction Youth Trust is invaluable for our young people."

By delivering the course through a series of live interactive online webinars, the Trust is able to overcome any restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure that all young people have access to a comprehensive set of online learning resources. Alongside delivering the free course, generously funded by National Lottery Community Fund, the Trust also gifted students with the CITB CSCS revision app and will be arranging CSCS card tests for the students too.

Construction Youth Trust and the college will continue to work closely together to create a beneficial local network connecting students with industry employers through careers networking and employability sessions.

ENDS.

For further information, please contact Claire Shearwood Burton 01322 629582

NOTES TO EDITORS:

About Construction Youth Trust

Construction Youth Trust is a registered charity.

The Trust's mission is to inspire and support young people to overcome barriers and achieve their full career potential in the construction and built environment sector. Social mobility is at the heart of our work and we prioritise supporting those young people facing the greatest barriers to employment and/or most unrepresented in industry. We help young people recognise their potential and discover opportunities that have never previously been presented to them.

About North Kent College

North Kent College offer an extensive range of Further Education, Higher Education, Access to Higher Education, Apprenticeships, Part-time courses and Training for Businesses. We provide young people with the next step after their GCSEs as an alternative to A Levels and a route to University or a career. We also have opportunities for people who are looking at studying at an undergraduate level, or who want to change career path or up-skill for career progression.

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