



Prize winning young engineer is 'outstanding'

From 6th – 9th July, eight students from Woodlands Community School, attended a Marine Technology course at the University of Southampton. The course provided ninety six students with a jam-packed timetable of educational and fun activities to give students a unique insight into the marine industry and the diverse and rewarding careers that it can offer.

The four-day residential programme was designed through a partnership between The Smallpeice Trust and the University of Southampton and was generously financially supported by the Lloyd's Register Educational Trust.

Working alongside facilitators from Babcock Marine and the University's School of Engineering Sciences, students were set to work on the main hands-on design and make project to build their own ship against set criteria and strict specifications. On the final morning students tested their ships in the university swimming pool. Students taking part in the course also expanded their core life skills in team building, communication, time management, problem solving and presentations. An industrial visit to BVT Surface Fleet Ltd was also included in the programme which gave students an insight into engineering on a commercial scale.

As part of the course the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology kindly presented an award to Charlotte Holt of Woodlands Community School, for her outstanding contribution to the course. Charlotte received an inscribed certificate, a cheque for £125 and also a cheque for the school which will fund a student on the course in 2010.

Michael Franklin, Director of the Lloyd's Register Educational Trust commented "This residential course fulfils our aim of educating youngsters about the vital world of science, engineering and technology. It encourages them to pursue their studies and, I hope, ultimately take up a career in this field. Through a mix of team exercises designed to give students a taste of real-life projects, and the opportunity to mix with industry specialists, they have been given a true experience of a career in this fascinating subject."

Dr. Andrew Cave, Chief Executive of The Smallpeice Trust commented "We are very fortunate to have Lloyd's Register Educational Trust and the University of Southampton supporting this inspirational Marine Technology course for such talented young people. The students have gained new skills and have seen what exciting and challenging career opportunities there are in marine engineering."

The Marine Technology course is run by the independent educational charity, The Smallpeice Trust, as part of an ongoing programme of residential courses to help young people aged 13 to 18 learn and develop skills in engineering, design, technology and manufacturing. Through running over 32 residential courses and STEM enrichment sessions, The Trust has reached out to around 16,000 students across the UK in the past year.