

D.A.R.E. anti-drug charity moves to new offices

THE Nottinghamshire-based anti drug education charity D.A.R.E. has moved into new purpose built offices at Portland College just on the outskirts of Mansfield.

The new headquarters will be the centre of D.A.R.E.'s ambitious plans to expand its operations into schools in Derbyshire, Leicestershire and South Yorkshire.

D.A.R.E. UK is a national charity which delivers life skills and drugs education to youngsters aged nine to 16.

D.A.R.E. was brought to the UK in Nottinghamshire 16 years ago and is popular in more than 280 of that county's schools.

The charity has been based at Bluecoat School in Nottingham for the past six years.

D.A.R.E.'s chief executive officer Dave Gilbert said: "We are very grateful for the help we have had from Bluecoat School, but we are now in the fortunate position to be able to move to a new purpose-built suite of offices at Portland College.

"The move comes at an ideal time for us. We are poised to expand into many exciting new areas. We have always been successful in Nottinghamshire schools and thousands of local children have benefitted from our programmes.

"We help primary school children to develop the skills, knowledge, understanding and self confidence to resist the dangers of drugs, bullying and anti-social behaviour.

"It has never been more important to help youngsters develop the skills to cope with a drug-using and threatening world.

"We are spreading our message beyond Nottinghamshire



D.A.R.E. officer Kathy Cross delivers the D.A.R.E. programme to primary school children.

and it is essential we have modern, businesslike premises as our headquarters.

"We have had assistance from Nottingham Business Venture and Portland College have been very understanding. The economic environment has been very challenging for charities like us and their help is much appreciated."

The new offices will house five staff and will be the hub of an operation which sends retired and serving police officers to schools to deliver the programmes.

D.A.R.E. is already established in the City of London and in schools run by the Ministry of Defence in this country and abroad.

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