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communities

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PRESS RELEASE

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STUDENTS JOIN FIRE BRIGADE WORKFORCE AS PART OF THE 11 MILLION TAKEOVER DAY

College students joined Cleveland Fire Brigade's workforce for a day as part of the National 11 Million Takeover Day on Friday 6 November 2009.

The event is organised by the Children's Commissioner for England, Sir Al Aynsley -Green, and encourages organisations across England to open their doors to children and young people so that they can see for themselves the processes behind the decisions which affect their daily lives.

Five pupils from Nunthorpe Sixth Form College and six from Stockton Sixth Form College joined the Brigade and were given the opportunity to become part of the organisation and part of the decision making process.

The 16 and 17 year olds were asked to research and plan what the Fire Brigade could provide at next years Tall Ships event which takes place next August that will attract young people. They gathered information on the Brigade and the Tall Ships event and presented their ideas to staff at the end of the day.

Les Jones, Head of Community Safety and Education said: "This year we thought we would offer the opportunity for students to work on a real project so they could develop ideas that we could actually use.

"We were delighted with the ideas that they came up with which included vinyl wrapping our community education vehicle in a design that would attract young people, having a car that had been involved in a road traffic accident on display and having someone dressed up as Fireman Sam for children to have their photo taken with.

"We have asked if the students would like to help develop their ideas further and assist us at the Tall Ships event so they see their ideas followed through and used and so they can help with any further decision making."

For more information and picture opportunity please contact Wendy Dewhirst on 01429 872311.

Press release issued by Rachel Fawcett, Communications Officer. Contact on 01429 874035.