

Echo Tuesday 15th July 2008

Glittering night for Basildon's business



■ Prospects College gained a good result

Ref: awards12

PROSPECTS College was opened in September 2007 and set up to fill a skills gap in the Basildon area offering local apprenticeships.

The college offers work-based training rather than further education. It has worked with local employers to create an environment similar to the workplace. Prospects works with employers identifying future skill requirements and starts training the apprentices.

The college works with many local companies, offering engineering apprenticeships, and it has also set up an aerospace programme with Southend and Stansted airports.

The college offers day release training and block release and, importantly, the skills taught are used in their employment or future employment. The college has been set up for local people providing skills to local companies. It has created a work type environment using up-to-date technology and instructors. Students have responded positively to this. The college has done well promoting the apprenticeships to prospective students and also in getting local employers involved. Prospects has achieved a great deal in its first year and the challenge is to go even further.