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InspirEd Artwork Presented to Unipart

Unipart staff got a big 'thank you' today in the form of a giant collage for helping to inspire a number of local students to turn their lives around.

The students, who have been working at the company's Cowley HQ for the past year as part of the InspirEd programme, created the two metre wide collage in thanks for being given a fresh start after disciplinary problems at school. Having spent the last year studying for useful qualifications, they now have genuine opportunities to begin worthwhile careers.

The collage – which took the programme's ten students 8 weeks to create – was presented by InspirEd students Wazeem Asfar, Sophie Wheeldon and Ryan Pullen, who explained the artwork's significance.

"We wanted to create a lasting memory of what Unipart means for us," said Sophie, "and so we highlighted the things that have inspired us and which we hope will inspire others.

"Most of all, we're grateful for the opportunity we've been given," she added. "It's made a real difference to my life. This place makes you feel like you can achieve anything you want."

"Being here has really helped me," said Ryan. "The programme has changed me and helped me to concentrate on getting qualifications and a good job."

Thanking the students for the collage, Unipart Group Chief Executive John Neill praised the students for their enthusiasm and determination to succeed:

"At Unipart we believe that anyone can be great if they're prepared to work hard to achieve it and are coached by people who can really help. These students have taken a personal decision to put their school problems behind them and committed themselves to work with the InspirEd team and Unipart mentors to give themselves a second chance. They are justifiably proud of their achievements."

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Photo caption:

Unipart Group Chief Executive, John Neill, accepts the InspirEd mural from 2009 Trainees Wazeem Asfar, Sophie Wheeldon and Ryan Pullen, and InspirEd Project Manager, Sharon Bult, at the Group's UK headquarters in Cowley, Oxford.



Notes to editors:

About Unipart Group

The Unipart Group employs more than 8,000 personnel worldwide and has an annual turnover of more than £1billion. It is one of Europe's leading logistics companies and a widely-recognised pioneer in the field of Lean implementation.

Operating across a range of market sectors, including automotive, leisure, marine, manufacturing, mobile telecoms, rail, retail and technology, Unipart offers a breadth of services from third party logistics to expert consultancy.

All Unipart sites operate according to the Group's proprietary version of Lean known as The Unipart Way. This is a philosophy of working underpinned by tools and techniques that inspires efficiency, flexibility and outstanding customer service in any process.

Unipart also offers expert consultancy in implementing Lean principles and in supply chain management across a variety of industry sectors.

The Group's clients include Homebase, Sainsbury's, ASOS.com, Vodafone, 3, BSkyB, Jaguar Land Rover, Severn Trent Water and HMRC.

About InspirEd

InspirEd, based at Unipart Group's headquarters in Cowley, Oxford, is an extended provision of Meadowbrook College that offers educational and vocational training for students from Oxfordshire, who are in the final year of compulsory education.

As a result of Unipart's support over the past few years, with Unipart employees spending time with the students offering advice and mentoring and providing them with an insight into the world of work, the InspirEd Programme has grown to be an established and widely acknowledged opportunity for students requiring an alternative approach to their education.