

## Trowbridge campus

# New skills stem from here

WILTSHIRE College's dedicated centre for the study of science, technology, engineering and maths was officially opened by Andrew Murrison MP, who used the new facilities to make his own commemorative opening plaque.

The Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Centre aims to inspire young people to get involved with these subjects and help develop skilled people for future employment in these areas.

"This exciting project has been funded by Wiltshire Council and has provided the College, and our local schools, with state of the art learning facilities to support these subject areas.

Andrew recognised the importance of these facilities for young people in Wiltshire, he said: "Teaching these subjects and the related skills is at the heart of what we need to do to gain advantage nationally and survive in these extremely competitive industries.

"Science, technology, engineering and maths will play a vital part in attracting business to our community and are an important part of our future."

Following the opening of the centre there was a tour of the facilities, where Mr

Murrison used the industry standard specialist printers in the centre to produce a metal plaque, which he later fixed to the wall and unveiled.

Other facilities in the STEM Centre include new presentation technology, audio enhancement for teaching, interactive screens, mobile mini laptops and video conferencing facilities.

Flexible teaching spaces and furniture will enhance group, individual and multiple group learning and allow exhibition activities to take place.

The industry standard rapid prototyping system/3D printer, large format printer, Computer Aided Design (CAD) classroom and IT suite will also encourage students to engage in business enterprise activities.

Mark Thompson, director of ILT and e-learning, said: "The STEM Centre is accessible to local schools and Wiltshire College students, who are encouraged to come and utilise the equipment and facilities.

"This is an important resource that will help prepare people for careers in STEM industries, which is an extremely relevant goal for the economy of Wiltshire."



Director of ILT and e-learning Mark Thompson, Andrew Murrison MP and principal Di Dale