**Template Finalists Press Release**

 **Talented students / apprentices from (insert organisation) will compete to be named ‘Best in the UK’**

(List students/apprentices and skills) will represent (insert organisation) at this year’s prestigious WorldSkills UK National Finals which will take place from 19 – 22 November at venues across Greater Manchester.

(Add info about the students / apprentices). They will join nearly 500 other students and apprentices for the WorldSkills UK National Finals which take place over two days, with the results being announced at a glittering award ceremony at Manchester’s Bridgewater Hall on the evening of Friday 22 November.

The WorldSkills UK Competitions are seen as an integral part of the post-16 education and training calendar and attract over 6,000 registrations from across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland annually.  The competition-based training programmes are designed by industry experts and help young people grow personally and professionally by developing their technical and employability skills.

**Ben Blackledge, Chief Executive, WorldSkills UK said:** “Huge congratulations to this year’s National Finalists. We wish them the best of luck in their training as they prepare for the WorldSkills UK Finals.

“We look forward to working with our host venues and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority to welcome students and apprentices from all over the UK to showcase excellence in technical skills and drive forward the development of world-class skills for all young people.”

(Insert quote from Organisation)

The WorldSkills UK National Finals will take place at the following venues: Bolton College, Manchester College, The University of Manchester, Oldham College, Rochdale Training, Tameside College, Trafford and Stockport College Group and Wigan & Leigh College.

Ends

**Notes to Editors**

For media enquiries relating to WorldSkills UK, please contact Kate O’Connell on koconnell@worldskillsuk.org

**About WorldSkills UK**

WorldSkills UK is a world-class skills network focused on raising standards, championing future skills and empowering young people from all backgrounds. worldskillsuk.org