

News release - *For immediate release*

**RELATE CAMBRIDGE APPOINTS IT'S 2nd AMBASSADOR,
KAY BLAYNEY – CREATIVE EDUCATION SPECIALIST**



Relate Cambridge is delighted to announce the appointment of its second ambassador, Kay Blayney, who has lived and worked in Cambridge all her life and who is currently running her own freelance consultancy in the field of Creative Education.

Kay has been described - as not only an 'outstanding' drama teacher - but also as an innovative and well-organised educational consultant, experienced in initiating and leading new approaches, and collaborating on multidisciplinary projects. Kay finds it especially fulfilling when working with children who have a multitude of challenges to overcome.

Until 2015, Kay was Head of Creative & Expressive Arts (Drama, Music, Art & Dance) at Parkside Federation Academies, Parkside and Coleridge Campuses. Last summer, Kay worked closely with Claire Nunes at Relate Cambridge, in the production of Relate's second film to promote their work with children and young people.

In her role at Parkside, Kay was responsible for developing internal/external performance opportunities, liaising with local/national/international communities, promoting and creating activities, innovative opportunities and international visits and leading school/community projects with local community groups and professional practitioners.

Kay's recent projects include:

- Working for the Cambridge Early Years Teaching School as Project Manager, responsible for setting up an Initial Teacher Training (ITT) program, working in partnership with CREC Early Years Partnership and Birmingham City University.
- Promoting 'Creativity within schools' working as a CALSA (Culture Arts Leaders for Schools and Academies in Cambridgeshire) promoting the Artsmark and Arts Award, ensuring pupils benefit from the best cultural education and Senior Leaders include 'Arts and Culture' within their school improvement plans.

Kay as the 'entertainer' – regularly performs her own original monologues and is now also a presenter on Cambridge 105 – on the new 105 Today prime time morning show. She is currently running a successful freelance consultancy, liaising with a multitude of professionals in many different capacities across the whole educational spectrum.

Claire Nunes, Centre Director for Relate Cambridge said: "I am delighted that we have Kay on board. She brings a wealth of experience and tremendous enthusiasm. Her contacts in the world of education, as well as her expertise and passion for what she does can only be an asset to us in the promotion of our work. We are very lucky to have her to champion our cause and she will make a perfect addition to our team at Relate Cambridge".

Kay said: "Working creatively with Relate last year on the promotional film, really made me see the impact Relate counselling can have on young people's lives and how important it was for me to be involved in protecting young people from being affected by adult led issues. Working with Relate has made me realise that Relate was as much about preventing damage from occurring and preserving good healthy relationships, as opposed to simply offering families' support who are breaking up!"

Relate Cambridge is always looking for new Ambassadors. If you are a high profile individual who believes in our work, have a special area of expertise and would like to join our team, please contact Claire Nunes, Centre Director 01302 347710 director@relateCambridge.org.uk

Relate Cambridge offers information, advice and counselling for all stages of relationships. Call us on 01302 347712 or visit www.relatecambridge.org.uk for more information.

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For all media enquiries contact Elaine Taylor on **01302 347712**

LIKE us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/RelateCambridge>

Relate Cambridge – supporting relationships at every stage of your life

Notes to editors:

- Relationships are under increasing pressure – breakdown costs the UK an estimated £4.6bn each year.
- Relate champions the importance of strong and healthy relationships as the basis of a thriving society.
- Relate provides impartial and non-judgmental support for people of all ages, at all stages of couple, family and social relationships. For more information and advice visit www.relate.org.uk.
- Over a million people every year access information, support and counselling from Relate but its clear many more would benefit from Relate services.
- Relate's couple counselling work delivers an estimated £11.40 of benefits for every £1 spent.
- Relate's services extend beyond relationship counselling to family counselling, counselling for young people, sex therapy and informal courses and workshops and are offered through a network of around 1,700 counsellors across the country.
- Relate Cambridge celebrated its 70th birthday in 2015.