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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lincolnshire Wheelchair Rounders Project is officially launched

Students from St. Francis Special School in Lincoln took part in a game of Wheelchair Rounders to officially launch the Lincolnshire Wheelchair Rounders Project today (Thursday 17th February 2011).

The project, managed by Lincolnshire Sports Partnership and funded by Short Breaks at Lincolnshire County Council, is the first of its kind in the country. No other project solely dedicated to Wheelchair Rounders has ever been developed before, and St. Francis Special School is the pilot school for Rounders England. The project will eventually be rolled out to eight schools in Lincolnshire.

Alison Steel, the Operations Director at Rounders England, attended the events. She was impressed with the set-up, and pleased that Lincolnshire is the first to pilot the scheme:

“I often use Lincolnshire as a model of good practice; the Partnership do a lot of great work in disability sport so we were more than happy to support them with the Wheelchair Rounders Project. The children today at St. Francis had a great time and I hope it is successfully rolled out in the other eight schools very soon.”

36 children take part in the wheelchair sessions each week at St. Francis and as well as running a lunchtime club for the children, the school are also starting to develop Wheelchair Rounders in their PE Lessons.

Lesley Hedley from St. Francis Special School said:

“When Lincolnshire Sports Partnership first approached us about Wheelchair Rounders we were thrilled with the idea. Now we have over 30 children taking part every week and

they're really enjoying it. They've improved a lot since their first session four weeks ago, but they're really getting the hang of it, and it's great that all the children can take part, regardless of their disability."

Rachel Belcher, NGB Project Officer at Lincolnshire Sports Partnership, has coordinated the contract between the Partnership, Short Breaks at Lincolnshire County Council, Rounders England and the schools in Lincolnshire. She is managing the project:

"Wheelchair Rounders is all about engaging children with a disability in sport. It's fun, easy to play, and great for the children. We are delighted that Lincolnshire is the first county to develop the sport and look forward to seeing it develop in schools across the county."

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Photo:



Carly is on Third Post, whilst Josh tries to make it to forth



Some of the students at the end of the session

For further information about the Lincolnshire Sports Partnership, please contact Hayley Cook on 01522 585 580 or hayley.cook@lincolnshiresports.co.uk.

Please ensure that Lincolnshire Sports Partnership is mentioned in the article.