



PRESS RELEASE

AbbVie's Sligo Employees Transform Local School's Science Facilities During Their Annual Volunteering Week **Activity reflects company's commitment to promoting science education**

- Almost 150 volunteers from AbbVie's two manufacturing plants in Sligo helped to transform educational facilities at Ballinode Community College during the company's annual volunteering initiative
- More than 250 employees from across AbbVie's five sites in Ireland (in Cork, Dublin and Sligo) volunteered to improve the communities where they live and work during the initiative
- Approximately 9,000 AbbVie volunteers across the world partner with non-profits to make a difference in their communities

AbbVie, a global biopharmaceutical company with two manufacturing plants in Sligo, recently celebrated its sixth annual *Week of Possibilities*. This week-long initiative is the company's signature volunteering programme involving more than 9,000 employees globally who work with local non-profit partners to help make a difference in communities around the world.

Almost 150 AbbVie employees from the company's medical devices centre in Ballytivnan and their pharmaceutical plant on the Manorhamilton Road contributed close to 650 hours to help refurbish a science lab and other key areas of the community school during the week-long initiative. The activity reflects the company's ongoing commitment to science education and students will now have a brand-new science facility when they return from their summer break in September.

AbbVie volunteer efforts included a complete overhaul of the school's existing science space, replacing all existing equipment with state-of-the-art laboratory equipment and energy-saving fixtures and fittings to encourage a stimulating science-focused learning environment. In addition to the renovation of the



laboratory, the team also transformed several other areas at the co-educational multi-denominational secondary school, including the canteen, courtyard and school exterior.

As a company, AbbVie believes in making a strong commitment to local communities and the company undertakes improvement projects – particularly in education – through charitable giving as well as employee engagement.

AbbVie has joined forces with the national volunteer development agency, Volunteer Ireland on their Irish projects. In all, *Week of Possibilities* projects were rolled out in three communities in Cork, Sligo and Dublin – locations at which the company has a major presence. The partnership with Volunteer Ireland ensures AbbVie’s efforts align with the needs of their local communities.

Speaking about the positive impact of the *Week of Possibilities* outreach, **David McGuinness, Principal Ballinode Community College**, said: "We are very excited about developing a relationship with AbbVie and Volunteers Ireland and look forward to the real impact that this summer's works will have on our learning environment. In the longer term, we hope that this activity will form the basis for a more enduring collaboration; an association that will benefit our learners in the years ahead and open them up to them a range of opportunities in STEM-related fields."

Commenting on the Sligo project **Darren Egan, Site Director, AbbVie Manorhamilton Road** said: "*Week of Possibilities* truly demonstrates AbbVie’s commitment to support and serve our local communities. Over the past five years, AbbVie’s Sligo employees have volunteered their time, talent and efforts to help improve their local communities to do what they can to support and improve the educational resources available locally."

Columba McGarvey, Site Director at AbbVie’s Ballytivnan site, said: "AbbVie has an ongoing commitment to help transform science education in our communities. We hope that our efforts this week will give the students of Ballinode Community College a better chance of a successful future and potentially inspire a new generation of scientists and engineers."



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About AbbVie

AbbVie is a global, research-driven biopharmaceutical company committed to developing innovative advanced therapies for some of the world’s most complex and critical conditions. It employs more than 600 people at five manufacturing and commercial sites across Ireland. The company’s commercial headquarters is based in Dublin as is a separate international manufacturing and engineering services centre. AbbVie has two manufacturing plants in Sligo and one in Cork.

The company’s mission is to use its expertise, dedicated people and unique approach to innovation to markedly improve treatments across four primary therapeutic areas: immunology, oncology, virology and neuroscience. In more than 75 countries, AbbVie employees are working every day to advance health solutions for people around the world. For more information about AbbVie, please visit us at www.abbvie.com. Follow @abbvie on Twitter, Facebook or LinkedIn.

About The AbbVie Foundation

The AbbVie Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) foundation, is dedicated to having a remarkable impact on



the lives of the underserved around the world through a commitment to building strong communities, sustainable health care systems and effective educational programs. For more information please visit www.abbviefoundation.org.

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