

HOMEBASE IS KICKSTARTING 300 NEW JOBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE THIS SUMMER

London – 22 July 2021: Homebase is creating 300 jobs for young people across Britain as the first home and garden retailer taking part in the Government's new Kickstart Scheme. The Scheme gives people aged 16-24 the chance to learn valuable new skills, gain real life work experience and build confidence so that they are prepared to take on the challenges and exciting prospects in the bright careers that lie ahead of them.

The home and garden expert is excited to welcome the new recruits joining its store team, with the first new team members starting on 26th July, with more joining on 23rd August 2021. There will be at least two roles up for grabs at 83 stores in either the Click & Collect service support teams or the multi-channel service support teams, creating opportunities for young people across the country. These roles focus on providing brilliant service and will make shopping in our stores even easier for our customers, and the recruits will become a core part of the Homebase team.

The six-month Scheme will include training throughout, giving each young person the opportunity to gain both valuable skills and experience. From stock management processes, digital sales, customer relationship management and health and safety processes, to problem solving, organisation and teamwork, these are just some of the skills that Homebase's new team members can expect to learn and take with them into their future careers.

Neil Hill, Head of People & Leadership, comments: "I'm really excited that Homebase is joining the Kickstart Scheme to help the next generation grow. We're committed to giving back to the local communities that we live and work in and we're looking forward to welcoming our new team members. I actually entered the workplace myself through a Government funded scheme and I honestly don't think I would be in this job today if it wasn't for that opportunity, so this feels special on a personal level, too."

In partnership with The Prince's Trust, a UK-wide youth charity with 45 years' worth of experience specialising in youth employability support, Homebase's new team members will receive support every step of the way, with access to the charity's network of youth support workers, partners and mentors. The Kickstart Scheme is also funded by Department of Work and Pensions to ensure every young person participating will be guaranteed National Living Wage or National Minimum Wage.

Homebase is proud to be involved in the Kickstart Scheme, providing young people at risk of unemployment with the opportunity to begin their career at a retailer with over 40 years of expertise.

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Notes to Editors:

For more information

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About Homebase:

Founded in 1979, we are the home and garden experts. We're a one-stop-shop for the products, expertise and inspiration home makers need to fix, improve or transform their homes and gardens.

Homebase has 152 stores and 15 standalone Bathstore stores employing over 5,600 people across the UK and Ireland, whose specialist knowledge sits at the heart of the friendly and inspiring service Homebase offers its customers. New high street stores DECORATE by Homebase and Kitchens by Homebase have also been launched around the UK with more planned.

Our wide range of products cover garden, decorating, home furnishings, kitchens, bathrooms and fitted bedrooms, and everything you need for everyday repair and maintenance, complemented by partnerships with leading brands, such as Hearst UK, ELLE Decoration, Villeroy & Boch, Bosch, NEFF and Roux Kitchens. We have everything you need for your home and garden projects under one roof. Our inspirational new store layouts are helping millions of customers combine extensive on-trend collections with the ideas, advice, partners and tools to create a home they love. For more information visit <https://www.homebase.co.uk/about-us/who-we-are>.