

# Paralympian tells students of struggle

**ASPIRING** youngsters got the chance to meet a paralympian last week when he visited their school.

Danny Crates, a paralympic gold medallist in the 800m, dropped in to give a talk to pupils at the Swindon Academy in Pinehurst, last week for sports charity 21st Century Legacy.

He gave a talk to 240 pupils in Years 7 and 11 last Friday about the horrific car accident which cost him his arm and his battle to succeed as an athlete. The event marked the launch of the 'Be the best you can be' campaign by 21st Century Legacy, now in its third year at the school.

Jan Shadick, principal at Swindon Academy, said: "We were very lucky to have been involved in this programme since its beginning and have been delighted with the results.

"Our students have, in the past, been inspired by Olympians such as Darren Campbell and Katharine Merry and we were excited for our current year 7 students to meet Danny Crates.

"The programme helps our students to envisage their future and start to plan how they can make it happen.

"It builds their self-esteem and confidence in dealing with others."



**INSPIRING VISITOR** Paralympian Danny Crates meets Swindon Academy students Aaron Marvell, Ines Fontes, Connor Hollick and Alisha Parker  
Picture: JAMES DOUGLAS [swindonadvertiser.co.uk/buythisphoto](http://swindonadvertiser.co.uk/buythisphoto)