

National awards for Kirton Primary School

Kirton Primary School has scooped two major awards for improving educational achievement and advice and guidance for young people in making sound life choices.

Nicky Donley, executive head at the school, said: "We are thrilled to have been chosen from such a strong shortlist for both awards organised by Children and Young People Now magazine, including the Wellcome Trust, London Institute of Banking and Finance, Sheffield City Council and Career Connect, to name just a few."

"The judges particularly look at work to support children with special educational needs and disabilities or disadvantaged groups such as looked-after children. Our Learn and Earn project in which we've created our own high street with a bank, shop and market stall has really engaged children in this area while it has also provided all our pupils with important learning about maths, finance and the world of work.

"These awards highlight the hard work and commitment of all staff, pupils and the governing body, as well as the huge support of parents. I'm extremely proud for the whole school."

The Learn and Earn project has seen the children opening their own account at the bank, create the school's own currency, and bank and shop staff wear uniforms, plan rotas, work shifts, check pay and order stock.

Children have developed sophisticated saving plans, saving for Mother's Day or for younger siblings. Standards have risen for progress in maths, reading and writing. Councillor Mrs Patricia Bradwell, Executive Councillor for Children's Services, said: "The school richly deserves these awards for their innovation in teaching and learning. These projects have helped the school close the attainment gap between children who are disadvantaged and those who are not.

"For the last two years, Kirton has been in the top 2% of schools in England for progress in maths, reading and writing and the top 1% for disadvantaged children. It has become a Centre of Excellence, inundated with requests for advice from schools and advisory boards across the country. They truly represent everything that is good about education in Lincolnshire."