

Richmond School



Press Release

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Fair traders, children and staff at Richmond School on their ethical trade mission

RICHMOND School students have been working since January with Young Co-operatives, which is part of the UK Co-operative Movement that works in schools to encourage ethical enterprise.

All the profits from the school project will be divided between the Yorkshire Air Ambulance and an orphanage in Amala, India.

Ten Richmond School children formed a special Fair Trade committee at the beginning of the year and have been holding regular meetings, staging special assemblies and selling goods ever since.

Alistair Ellerington, 14, of Richmond, said: "We have developed a lot of business skills but also discovered a lot about ethics and we have been encouraging and promoting Fair Trade in the school."

Alex Richardson, 14, of Moulton, added: "I have learned a lot and hope one day to become a very successful but ethical businessman who is also aware of environmental issues."

Teacher Arlene Garnett said they would now work towards Richmond becoming a Fair Trade school, which would take about six months to complete to meet various criteria.

She said: "The group has been marvellous. They are organised, sensible and I am amazed at how much they have achieved in such a short time."

Debbie Holden, of Young Co-operatives, said: "Learning about the principles and values of the Co-operative Movement makes them think about what they do with their profits.

"They have a lot of fun but become acutely aware of not exploiting anyone in their supply chain. They learn how using your profits can impact on the world for good and bad."