

## press release

18 May 2009

### Wellingborough School tipped to win Shares4Schools title

- Local students snub FTSE 100 shares to make a 94% profit
- Competition winners announced 5 June

**With just three weeks to go until the winners of the national investment competition Shares4Schools are announced, Wellingborough School has jumped ahead of its rivals after avoiding FTSE 100 companies.**

Shares4Schools, run by retail stockbroker, The Share Centre and endorsed by the Personal Finance Education Group (pfeg), is an exciting way for schools to bring economics and business studies to life as students invest real money in the stock market.

Despite tough market conditions, Year 12 pupils at Wellingborough School have turned £1,500 into a whopping £2,884.94, a gain of 94.2% in just eight months. The students' investment strategy has been to pick small to medium-sized companies that they believe will buck the recession trend.

Commenting on their performance, David Williams, Head of Wellingborough School said: "We are thrilled to be in the lead, particularly when trading conditions have been so tough. The students' strategy has been to try and pick shares that they think will buck the recession trend, and these tend to be the small to medium-sized ones. We are mainly investing in the oil exploration sector, but have some shares in real estate too."

Commenting on Wellingborough School's investment strategy, Nick Raynor, investment adviser at The Share Centre said: "Wellingborough's strategy to invest in small to medium-sized companies seems to be working. While it can be riskier to invest in smaller, less well known companies, there is often the potential for big gains. And, considering the volatility of the FTSE 100 at the moment, Wellingborough may well find it easier to hold onto their gains by sticking to shares on smaller markets."

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The Shares4Schools competition closes on Friday 5 June. Winners of both the national and regional leagues will be invited to attend a special Winner's Day celebration event to be held on Wednesday 1 July Westminster, London.

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## **Note to editors:**

Shares4Schools leaders as of 11:00am 18 May 2009

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name of school</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Fund value</b>	<b>Gain/loss %</b>
1	Wellingborough School	Wellingborough	£2,912.51	94.2
2	The Grange School	Aylesbury	£2,733.31	82.2
3	Pendleton College	Salford	£2,000.56	33.4
4	Trent College	Nottingham	£1,955.75	30.4
5	Westbourne School	Penarth	£1,933.31	28.9

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## **About The Share Centre:**

The Share Centre was established in 1990 to provide value-for-money share services for private investors. Its range of services includes buying and selling shares (by Internet, telephone and post) and a comprehensive share administration and safe custody service. Tax-efficient investment 'wrappers' including ISAs, CTFs and SIPP's are also available.

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