

‘A patient’s journey through the NHS’ - Isleham C of E Primary pupils scoop first prize in regional Health Education England careers contest.

Abigail Jones and Ophelia Finlay from Isleham have been named the East of England regional winners in an annual contest designed to bring awareness to the range of roles within the NHS, and help encourage young people consider a career in the sector.

11 year-olds Abigail and Ophelia, pupils at Isleham C of E Primary School, created a video animation of a drawing showing a patient’s ‘journey’ through the NHS. The incredibly detailed video showcases the various roles and departments in the NHS, and how they link into patient care. The video can be found [here](#).

Health Education England (HEE) runs the Step Into The NHS competition in primary schools each year to highlight the many career paths in health and care. This year’s competition saw an impressive 1,428 entries from more than 1,800 pupils in 96 primary schools throughout England. As well as learning about some of the 350 careers in the NHS, pupils had chance to say thank you to the NHS in their own personal and creative way.

Winners, Abigail and Ophelia said:

“Winning the regional award was not something that I thought could happen, but it was an exciting project to do with my friend and I feel very proud to have represented my school.”

“I have really enjoyed doing this project with my best friend, Ophelia. My favourite part was finding out about all the different roles in the NHS, and the different career opportunities available. We were really surprised when we found out that we were the regional winners, because we just entered for fun, but we’re both really proud of our work.”

Headteacher, Mrs Sarah Skillern said:

"Everyone at Isleham Primary School is so proud of Abi and Ophelia for being recognised in this national competition. Both girls are so creative and worked together brilliantly on their competition entry."

The Step Into The NHS contest provides a host of useful teaching resources to help raise students’ aspirations and understanding of the many careers available in the NHS.

The resources help students learn about themselves by encouraging them to explore the wide range of jobs in the health service.

Dr Navina Evans, Chief Executive, Health Education England, said: "This year's entries for the Step Into The NHS contest have been creative, fun and thought-provoking – and I am absolutely delighted to congratulate our East of England winners Abigail and Ophelia."

Developed in partnership with teachers, the Step Into The NHS website includes a careers quiz, real-life stories from NHS staff, work experience tips and learning resources to help young people explore the hundreds of roles within the NHS:

<https://www.stepintohenhs.nhs.uk/>

For details of all the career opportunities the NHS can offer, visit the Health Careers website here:- <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

Abigail Jones and Ophelia Finlay pictured with their winning certificates..