

# Ambitious youngsters aim to start their own businesses



Over half of sixth formers and university students would consider setting up in business after completing their studies, according to a new survey.

The 2006 NatWest Student Money Matters survey has found that entrepreneurial spirit among Britain's youngsters is very much alive, with one in four already having a business idea that they are keen to pursue.

Pete Ferns, director of NatWest Business Banking, commented: "With the future of the UK's economy in the hands of today's school and university students, it is extremely encouraging to see such ambition and drive amongst them."

Two thirds of young people said that they were keen to gain the independence that owning their own business would give them, while one in three thought that being a business owner would give them a better standard of living.

Although only one in five thought that they would award themselves a bonus if they ran their own business, over half said that they would work flexible hours and a third would take more holidays than a standard office job would allow.

Mr Ferns warned that starting a business was challenging.

"It is a big step that requires a lot of hard work and unwavering commitment, but there are many resources, including NatWest, offering the right support and guidance to make it a rewarding experience in many different ways," he added.