

The Eric Robinson Award for Young Person in Business

Kayleigh Sargeant (New Forest Academy of Dance)

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Kayleigh took over the New Forest Academy of Dance approximately two years ago and in that time has grown the school from 142 students to over 220. Having been dancing since the age of 2 and a freelance Dance Teacher more recently, this business has allowed Kayleigh to use her own skills to provide and grow the business according to her own experiences.



The Academy offers classes 2 from years to adult, in particular the Beginners Adult Ballet and Tap classes have proved popular. They hold Royal Academy of Dance and LAMDA examinations to help students achieve their best around three times a year as well as putting on workshops with industry professionals and taking part in local events such as church fetes and most recently the Lymington Carnival.



The school is growing and in the future Kayleigh would like New Forest Academy of Dance to be a centre offering many types of dance to all ages and abilities. Moving forward she will continue to offer the workshops, shows and take part in more events within the local community. Kayleigh would also like to introduce more dance related classes for older people, having identified this as a gap in the market locally. Looking ahead Kayleigh is also considering expanding to offer summer camps for visitors to the New Forest during the holidays.

This year the Academy has put on the first full school show in five years giving all the students a chance to showcase their skills and perform as well as raising the awareness of the school within the local community.



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