



"every journey begins...

...with the first step"

www.eliteacademyofdance.com

"one step you will never forget"



THE ELITE

The Elite Academy Of Dance is a small school based in Ferndown, Dorset that offers training in Ballet, Tap, Modern/Jazz, Lyrical and Acrobatics for children aged 2 upwards. The Academy opened its doors in March 2003 and moved premises in 2006 to provide space for the growing number of students.

At the Academy each pupil is valued individually and encouraged to achieve their highest potential and although the Academy strives to provide good technique and understanding of dance our aim is to provide pupils with a happy and friendly atmosphere in which to learn to dance. You will find that we provide a young and lively atmosphere and have relatively small classes so each student gets individual class time attention.

As well as dance we hope to encourage self-confidence and discipline, personality and co-ordination and above all we encourage them to have fun! Dance has been proven to be one of the best methods for encouraging correct posture and sound muscle development in children and a highly effective form of muscle toning and fitness training for adults. Our dance classes require concentration and a level of self discipline demanded in modern everyday life in addition to being a means of excellent physical exercise so necessary for the healthy growth of young bodies.

All classes are suitable for those children wishing to attend just one a week or equally those dance mad or especially gifted students who can't stay away.

Although the Academy provides dance for fun and as a hobby professional training is available to the more serious dancer who wants to take a vocational course in readiness for a career in the Arts.

At the beginning of every month the Academy publishes a newsletter which has updated information for parents or students. At the end of every term a pack is issued with all details relevant for the next term.

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THE PRINCIPAL



My name is Kelly Shults and I am the principal of the Academy. I trained at the Poole Academy of Dance and have been dancing since the tender age of three.

In 1999, I decided to leave the Academy to pursue a teaching career.

This began at a Company called Entertainment Incorporated located in Poole, choreographing dance routines for small cabaret acts. Having been there for just over a year gaining experience in teaching and choreography, I decided to follow my dream of setting up my own dancing school, so I registered with The British

Theatre Dance Association teaching programme. I was lucky enough to be offered a teaching post at The New Forest School of Dance under the guidance of Mary Richardson. Here I stayed for 2 years entering students for examinations and medal tests. In March 2003 I believed I had gained the right level of experience to follow my dream and so with the help of very close friends and family The Elite Academy of Dance was formed. I gained my full qualification with The British Theatre Dance Association in May 2004.

I have a great passion for dance and feel that all of the students flare on this passion to give them the desire to succeed. Most believe that they can achieve the impossible which makes the classes very enjoyable for both them and me. I am sure that if you decided to become a part of the Academy you will feel it to, whether you are a student or a parent.

I aim to provide a fun, lively and friendly environment for students.

Student Teachers



Classes at Elite could not run efficiently without my team of teachers. Currently none are qualified to teach, having not reached the appropriate age or graded level but I feel that anyone that has a desire to teach needs to be trained to do so, nobody can just pick up a book and teach well. Under my guidance these students learn good practical teaching skills that not only help them with the young children but help to improve their own dancing technique in readiness for a teaching or performing career. I have a great passion for dance and feel that all of the students flare on this passion to give them the desire to succeed. Most of the students here believe they can achieve the impossible which makes the classes very enjoyable for everyone.



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SUBJECTS

Ballet

Classical ballet is the foundation for all dance disciplines and is often looked at as giving the best training for a dancer, giving them the skills and knowledge of stance, line, placement and awareness of music and space. When students reach the required level and age Pre Pointe work will begin to provide the correct training and natural progression to Pointe work for the stage.

Tap

Tap is extremely energetic and students will need to concentrate on timing, beats and rhythm. It's a great skill to be able to tap dance and throughout the lessons students will learn steps and sequences that will also help their understanding of rhythm and timing.

Modern

Modern dance covers flexibility and strength. Students will develop barre, floor, centre and creative exercises and routines. Modern gives a good grounding for students to start jazz street dance which is widely seen on the stage and used in conjunction for street dance in the choreography for films and music videos.

Lyrical

Lyrical is another form of Modern dance. It requires the dancer to interpret both lyrics and melody with increasing flexibility and co-ordination to create a sense of romance. This is the perfect replacement for Ballet for those late starters.

Acro

Acro is a form of gymnastic dance. It combines acrobatic trick with basic dance movements. This discipline places an emphasis on athleticism, agility, strength, control and balance and most of all trust between the students.

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EXAMS

At the Academy we encourage every student to stretch their individual talent to the absolute limit, which keeps them constantly motivated and keen to progress. Examinations are a major importance in a dancers training as this is when they are rewarded for their effort and talent. When children are ready, we enter them for examinations of the BTDA ([British Theatre Dance Association](#)), Courses leading to BTDA awards recognise achievement in dance and are approved by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority.

BTDA is committed to maintaining the highest possible standards for its syllabuses and awards. Many of its examinations are approved by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority and are part of the National Qualifications Framework. Those that are not part of the National Qualifications Framework (because they are for younger children or because they are BTDA specific awards) are delivered to the same high standards. A Pass at Grade 5 in BTDA's Graded Examinations is broadly comparable to a GCSE grade C and a Pass at Grade 7 and 8 to an A Level. When students gain BTDA awards it adds value to the performance of a school and is of benefit to the overall development of young people.

Students commence studying examination work at age 4. We currently run two examination sessions a year. Students are never forced to take exams although we would prefer they did them examinations are always optional

If a student is ready for an examination, a bill will be given at least 3 months before the deadline date. If for any reason a student leaves the academy, monies already paid will NOT be refundable.

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In addition to the examinations the Academy also holds Medal Test sessions where the students also get to show off their talent, but this time to an audience of parents, friends and family. This gives the students a chance to gain the necessary skills, experience and confidence required for a performance. All awards in the Medal Tests system can be taken as either a solo, duet, trio, group or troupe formation. These awards are available to students studying from Grade 1 upwards with each Medal or Trophy having a coloured centre to show the candidates age group. These awards can be taken in any subject e.g. Ballet, Tap, Modern, Lyrical, Acrobatic and Song and Dance. The levels are as follows:

- Bronze Medal
- Silver Medal
- Gold Medal
- Bronze Star Medal
- Silver Star Medal
- Gold Star Medal
- 1st Shield
- 2nd Shield
- 3rd Shield

If a student is ready for a medal test session, a bill will be given at least 3 months before the deadline date. If for any reason a student leaves the academy, monies already paid will NOT be refundable.

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SHOWS

The Academy show normally takes place once every year. This gives the students the opportunity to perform in front of a large audience and in a Theatre environment. The lower school generally perform one dance for each subject studied and the upper school can perform up to as many as three dances per subject.

Costumes are required for each show, however our costume bills are kept to a minimum and as well as class uniform being utilized as best as possible the Academy also provides various items from the stores.

The Academy are also asked to perform many small cabaret acts to local businesses for corporate events. We have also taken part in many school fetes and charity events especially over the summer period.

The Academy has 3 times taken part in A Chance to Dance at the Pavilion in Bournemouth to raise money for local charities, this is along with 9 other schools in the Dorset and Hampshire Regions. We have also performed twice in the West End of London for the Young Performers Variety Show.

The Academy's last show "Legends" was held in July 2011. It was a major success, enjoyed by all and cannot wait for the next "Mad for Musicals" to be staged in July 2012

Costume bills for any show are given out at least 3 months before the deadline date and are always payable in instalments. If for any reason a student leave the academy monies already paid will NOT be refundable.

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Each year the Academy holds a Summer school or summer classes during the month of August for members of the academy and students from around the country.

The week consist of many different classes including, Ballet, Tap, Modern Jazz, Lyrical, Acrobatics, Salsa, Yoga and Musical Theatre.

All the students enjoy themselves and no student wants to go home at the end of the lessons and we are pleased to see the students back each year.

The cost of the Summer School is very reasonable and covers all food and drink, tuition and evening activities if applicable.

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PRICES

Please note that there is no joining fee. All we ask is that fees are paid on time and one months notice is given when a student wishes to leave the Academy.

Prices for all classes are

15mins £2.00, 30mins, £2.40, 45mins £2.90, 60mins £3.20, Street Classes £4.00, Downs class £5.00

Where more than one subject is taken each child pays for 3 highest priced subjects, the rest are free. This is not applicable to stage classes, street dance classes or pointe classes. Where there is more than one child in a family and where an initial child is studying at least 3 full priced subjects (min £93.60 per term) please refer to the statement below. Should classes be cancelled for any reason refunds will only be given to students who do not have free lessons. Where students have free lessons and only when the total of classes missed exceeds the cost of the free lessons will a refund be given for the difference.

2nd Child - 3 subjects half price, the rest are free

3rd Child - 1 subject full price, the rest are free

We believe that everyone should be given the opportunity to dance. A normal 25% discount is given to residents of Synergy Housing in East Dorset. (Should families already be receiving discount of any form this discount is not offered). Proof of residency will be required annually and applies to the first child only for up to the first 3 subjects. If studying all 5 subjects no discount is available. Many students from the Academy still wish to continue with their dance training if they are attending a University close to home. We welcome this and offer a 50% discount to these students. A 25% discount is offered to those students who are attending Bournemouth University who have previously danced in their home town. Elite students who no longer attend the Academy as they have moved onto Dance College or University are welcomed back to classes Free of Charge in the holidays. Summer Schools etc must be paid for in full. Class fees are to be paid per term. Each child will receive a bill at the end of each. term to be paid full on the first lesson of the next term, unless otherwise agreed. If a student qualifies for discount or is studying 3 or more subjects class fees can be split into 3 equal payments. These payments are required in the form of post dated cheques.

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ACADEMY RULES

Classes:

- 1) Please arrive at least 10 minutes before your class is due to start to enable a quick transition from one class to another.
- 2) Should you not be able to attend your class for any reason you should telephone text or email in advance to advise.
- 3) Please ensure that the correct uniform is worn for each class and that your hair is in a bun for ballet if time allows and neatly tied back for all other disciplines.
- 4) All mobile phones are to be turned off parents can contact their child in emergencies by calling the Principals mobile which is always switched on.
- 5) Ferndown - Only the main corridor, the studio, the music studio and the staff toilets are to be used by members of the academy. **ALL OTHER AREAS OF THE SCHOOL ARE STRICTLY OUT OF BOUNDS UNLESS A STUDENT IS AUTHORISED TO GO TO THAT AREA**
Poole – Only the main hall, the foyer and the toilers are to be used
- 6) Access to the Poole and Ferndown Studios is made via the front entrance. Please ring the outside bell and the door will be opened for you.
- 7) Please be considerate of the neighbours when leaving both studios and car park late at night, please keep noise to a minimum.
- 8) Ferndown - Please also be considerate of the property belonging to the school. If a piece of equipment is not labelled with the Elite logo then it is not to be touched.
- 9) Ferndown - All parents and students are to wait in the Music Studio prior to classes so not to interrupt or disrupt the lesson in progress.
Poole – There is no waiting area for parents

Class Fees:

Please note: class fees are non-refundable for sickness or absence. (except in exceptional circumstances deemed appropriate by the Academy)
Any monies paid to the academy are non refundable should for any reason the student decide to leave before the end of term, the show, the medals or the exams.

Uniform:

After an initial period of 2 terms, the Academy staff will expect to see the students wearing the correct uniform. Orders are made each term for ease.

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DOWN'S

As you will no doubt be aware, we believe everyone should have the chance to dance and currently have classes running for children with Down Syndrome. These classes have been a major success and not only does it allow the students to meet other children with the condition it allows the parents to have a "mothers meeting" to offer advice on various aspects of their child's development. Dorset NHS have recommended us to various parents as an additional form of physiotherapy for the children.

The class focuses on Ballet, Tap and Modern. It provides training on controlling their muscles and hyperflexibility as well as stimulating their learning abilities. We teach them how to count music and how to move to music and how to work with each other.

We have a team of highly enthusiastic teachers who work with the students on a one to one until they are comfortable to work alone.

The class is very challenging but very enjoyable for all and something we hope will be a successful way into the future.



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TIMETABLE

Monday (Ferndown)	4.30 – 5.15	Prep Acro & Lyrical
	5.15 – 6.00	Prep Ballet and Tap
	6.00 – 6.45	Grade 6 Tap
	6.30 – 7.15	Grade 4 & 5 Tap
	7.15 – 8.00	Grade 6 Modern
	8.00 – 8.45	Grade 6 Lyrical
	8.45 – 9.30	Grade 6 Ballet
Wednesday (Ferndown)	4.30 – 5.00	Pre Prep Modern
	5.00 – 5.45	Grade 4 Ballet
	5.45 – 6.30	Grade 4 Modern
	6.30 – 7.15	Grade 4 Lyrical
	7.15 – 8.00	Grade 3 & 4 Tap
Thursday (Ferndown)	4.30 – 5.00	Grade 1 Lyrical
	5.00 – 5.30	Grade 1 Tap
	5.30 – 6.00	Stretching and Limbering
	6.00 – 6.45	Acro class
	6.45 – 7.15	Pointe Class
	7.15 – 8.00	Stage class
Sunday (Ferndown)	8.45 – 9.15	Primary Modern
	9.15 – 9.45	Primary Tap
	9.45 – 10.15	Primary Ballet
	10.15 – 11.00	Prep Ballet & Tap
	11.00 – 11.30	Prep Modern
	11.30 – 12.15	Pre Prep Ballet & Tap
	12.15 – 13.00	Downs Class
13.00 – 13.45	Grade 1 Modern	
	13:45 – 14.30	Grade 1 Ballet

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CALENDAR

Term Commences	8 th January
Half Term Commences	13 th February
Classes Resume	20 th February
Term ends	6 th April
Term commences	15 th April
2012 Show	7 th & 8 th July

Times of all Examinations, Medals and show rehearsals will be given nearer the time.

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CONTACTS

To join the Academy please complete the A4 enrolment form and post to:

Office:
The Elite Academy of Dance
14 Warburton Road
POOLE
Dorset
BH17 8SF

Enrolment can also be made via the website at www.eliteacademyofdance.com

If you have any questions please phone 07909 978886 or email
kelly@eliteacademyofdance.com

Our classes are held at:
Oakhurst School
Shaftesbury Avenue
West Moors
Ferndown
Dorset
BH22 0DY

If you are transferring from another BTDA school and we do not have your grade listed we will do our very best to add it in for you. If you are transferring from an ISTD school or equivalent and are unsure of what class you will be in we will advise you accordingly after your trial lesson. If you are a completely new student of any age we have many classes that would suit you and would not place you in the lower grades with the younger students.

Kirsty Brown Aged 17

