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## Media Release

# Police in Portsmouth help young dancers realise their potential

Police in Portsmouth have been helping some of the city's young performers realise their potential.

On Friday July 16, five 11-year-old girls from Copnor Junior School kicked off the summer holidays with a dance performance at a SNAP Disco.

The event at the Portsmouth Pyramids Centre in Southsea included a special dance section organised by PCSO Helen Jolley from the Copnor & North End Safer Neighbourhoods team.

PCSO Jolley worked with the five school children to put on a street dance performance to celebrate the start of the summer holidays.

She said: "We've been rehearsing since June 25 and the youngsters have been working so hard to perfect their act. After working closely with them, I've seen how mature these youngsters are through their dedication and commitment to perfect the performance ready for the SNAP disco.

"Watching them perform on the night was brilliant, and I was proud to have worked with such a great group of people."

PCSO Jolley also organised funds for the performers' outfits and the girls said being able to perform in front of 300 people was a real confidence boost. One of them, Charley Best, said: "We put in lots of hard work... it was amazing."

The audience were also treated to two performances from the Portsmouth-based Streetforce Dance Company.

PC Mick Brown, who organises the SNAP Discos for Portsmouth, said: "The evening was a great success and the audience were blown away by the special dance event. I'm impressed by the amount of work the children put in to their performance."

PCSO Jolley added: "Working with young people in projects like this builds relationships and trust with the police and gives them a better outlook on what we do."

"They also improve their lives, nurturing a popular interest and really getting the creative juices flowing."

"I hope to do more work of this kind in the future, and can't wait to see how the girls get on with their new found talent."

For more information on the SNAP discos and to find out how to get tickets, please visit [www.portsmouthsnap.com](http://www.portsmouthsnap.com)

For more information about the work of the Copnor & North End Safer Neighbourhoods team, please visit their page at [www.hampshire.police.uk](http://www.hampshire.police.uk)

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**About Safer Portsmouth Partnership**

Safer Portsmouth Partnership is a group of statutory and voluntary community agencies that meet regularly and work together to reduce crime, substance misuse and the fear of crime. Their goal is to make Portsmouth a safe place to live, work and visit.

Kat Harding    1538/21072010    02392 891540