

## Emma Jane Clarke

### *Martinstown Lodge*



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Originally from Celbridge, Co Kildare, Emma Jane Clarke set up her equine-centred professional development coaching business at her home in Athboy, Co Meath, in October 2021.

Emma Jane initially piloted her business idea, and when she felt she had a feel for how the business would go, she left her role as a senior director with Sport Ireland.

Martinstown Lodge is an equine-centred professional development centre based on Emma Jane's farm in Athboy. It works with individuals and businesses to help develop their teams and leaders through the power of horses.

A qualified leadership coach, Emma Jane was inspired to set up the business to fulfil her twin passions for coaching and horses in a way that would add value to the farm.

She got the business started through networking and inviting people to experience the work – as professional development through horses is relatively unknown in Ireland though it is done internationally.

Martinstown Lodge has four horses, a second equine leadership coach along with Emma Jane, and horse handlers who are contracted in to support clients develop their emotional intelligence in the workplace through experiential learning.

She works with some of the top companies and leadership trainers in the country, and the business is continuously evolving and growing. It won two prestigious national awards at the Equestrian Business Awards in 2022 and also won a commendation in the RDS Sustainability Awards in 2024.

Emma Jane says having access to high-quality mentors and peer-to-peer support on the ACORNS programme was hugely beneficial.

Her plan for the future is to expand the client base in Ireland and to expand into international markets.

***Providing early stage female entrepreneurs, living in rural Ireland, with the knowledge, support and networking opportunities to meet and even exceed their current aspirations.***



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