



SKILLS & COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD

WINNER

Ian Green,

senior controller GTC UK & Nissan Skills Foundation, Nissan

Nissan's flagship plant in Sunderland is surrounded by a significant number of areas classified as 'high deprivation'. The Nissan Skills Foundation (NSF) was set up and developed by Ian to bridge the growing gap between the demands of Nissan and its supply base and the skills, abilities and desire of school leavers to find careers in manufacturing and engineering.

The NSF is a huge departure from the normal business of making cars and is set up to actively engage with schools children of all ages. The foundation offers innovative unique classroom lessons and engagement events based upon the needs of schools.

The programme's approach is to remove barriers and to raise aspirations and understanding of the opportunities and increase engagement with STEM subjects, using everything from motorsports to electric vehicles to inspire children.

The NSF started with 136 learners in pilot year and now engages 8,000+ students each

year, enabling all students of all vulnerabilities and backgrounds to engage. There has also been a number of major benefits from his work, such as high-profile VIP visits.

Ian Green has been appointed the Industrial Skills lead for School Engagement within the North East Automotive alliance which represents 300 businesses in the region. It has allowed the programme to work with nine disabled schools and colleges, who would otherwise not have been able to engage with Nissan, and this has given nearly 530 disabled students the opportunity to attend sessions.

Within Nissan Europe, the Skills Foundation is also providing training and equipment that will allow the company to roll out sessions developed in the UK to Saint Petersburg in Russia, Barcelona in Spain and Romania.

Ian and NSF are doing great work to inspire those from all backgrounds, in a highly deprived area, and for this reason he is a worthy recipient of this year's Skills & Community Champion award.

FINALISTS

Claire Long,
MOS manager, *Teesside Beam Mill – British Steel*

JUDGES' COMMENTS

“The extent of the outreach to such a large number of children is a phenomenal effort to inspire the next generation. Now reaching outside of the UK, the programme is extremely broad-reaching and for all walks of society.”

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Jim Wallace, Arconic Manufacturing (GB) Ltd (Kitts Green location)