

**PLASTERING AND
INTERIOR TRADES**

TRAINING AWARDS

2023



TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER

**Plasterers' Hall
One London Wall
London EC2Y 5JU**

**thefis.org
plaistererslivery.co.uk**

FIS
FINISHES & INTERIORS SECTOR



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PLASTERERS



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We're committed to leaving a positive legacy and helping the next generation of plastering and drylining professionals find a route into the industry, as well as supporting the development and upskilling of the current workforce.

Through our installer, specifier, site manager, reseller and distributor training courses, our training academies deliver training to over 2,500 people every year.

Our skills partnership team supports the development of over 3,500 new entrants through partnerships with 65 colleges and training providers, designed to drive and improve skills standards across the industry, as well as supporting initiatives to attract new talent to the sector.

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Introduction

PLASTERING AND
INTERIOR TRADES

TRAINING
AWARDS

2023

The Training Awards are a collaboration between FIS and the Worshipful Company of Plasterers to recognise achievement and excellence in plastering and interior systems.

The awards celebrate:

- The achievement of apprentices
- Students who have exceeded expectations
- Training delivery by colleges and training providers
- Training delivery by an FIS member company
- Mentors and others who have supported sector training
- Lifetime contribution to sector training

THE JUDGES SAY:

It was a privilege to be a member of the judging panel for this year's Training Awards. The standard of entries across all categories was incredibly high, each supported with very positive endorsements from students, colleagues and employers.

Regardless of their final positions, all nominees should be proud of their individual achievements and take heart from the comments of their peers, supervisors, managers and tutors.

Congratulations to all nominees - we wish you all the very best for the future. Our sector is in good hands!

THE JUDGES



Philip Brown
FIS President



Margaret Evans
CITB



Matt Morgan
Construction
Apprenticeship
Consultant



Beena Nana
FIS Head of Skills
and Training



Helen Tapper
FIS Immediate
Past President



Terry Wright
Worshipful Company
of Plasterers

APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR - PLASTERING

Bella Romain

Cyfle Building Skills



JG ROBINSON TROPHY
Recognising and rewarding the
achievements of exceptional
apprentices in plastering

Pictured from left: Lord Mayor of London, Michael Mainelli; Bella Romain; Master Plasterer, Tony Mitchell.

Bella has been an apprentice since September 2020 while studying at Coleg Sir Gar. Progressing from the basic plastering course to apprenticeship and completing her NVQ Level 3, Bella's focus has been on continuous learning and going beyond the minimum requirements. Her lecturer praises her "passion for the plastering craft" and diligent, hands-on approach. Throughout her apprenticeship, Bella has demonstrated a dedication to learning, meticulous attention to detail and an eagerness to assimilate new techniques. This has led to remarkable progress as Bella sought feedback and embraced suggestions to enhance her skills.

Bella's love for lime plastering is described as "contagious", with her commitment to upholding the authenticity of heritage projects setting her apart. Impeccable timekeeping means she consistently meets deadlines and demonstrates a high level of organisation and discipline. But what truly sets Bella apart is her commitment to her studies while also overseeing her mother's care and wellbeing. She goes the extra mile to seek additional resources and actively engage with college lecturers, motivated by a desire to create a better future both for herself and her mother. Bella's ability to juggle caregiving responsibilities while excelling in her plastering course is a testament to her exceptional perseverance.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

A high-calibre candidate who knows what she wants and where she is going – committed to the training, with the right attitude, willingness to learn and able to take criticism. Bella is always willing to help others, whether it's making coffee or explaining the requirements of the job to others.

APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR - PLASTERING

RUNNERS UP

Deniss Fridenbergs, Brian Horn Plastering

Deniss, an apprentice at Brian Horn Plastering, trains at Carlisle College and is described as a model student with excellent attendance and punctuality. He has represented Carlisle College in two regional SkillBuild competitions, achieving second place, and was recently named British Gypsum Apprentice of the Year. Deniss has been praised for his outstanding work, both practical and theoretical, showing equal commitment to his work on site and his apprenticeship programme. Employer Brian Horn comments: "Deniss is a breath of fresh air. His willingness to learn has made my job easy!" Deniss has also participated in sessions with school leavers and is working as a mentor for a new apprentice on site.



Deniss's award was collected by Suzanne Wannop, Carlisle College.

Ryan Stanford, Locker & Riley

Ryan, an apprentice with Locker & Riley and the College of North West London, recently completed his Level 2 NVQ in plastering and will complete his Level 3 in the coming year. Ryan represented his college in a SkillBuild competition this year, coming second, and won the Apprentice Challenge at Locker & Riley. He strives to learn and grow, and always ensures his casts are of the upmost quality. Ryan represented the company in the Guild Hall Careers Festival, teaching schoolchildren about fibrous plastering. He is always willing to help the business and to learn more skills. Locker & Riley describes Ryan as "one of the best apprentices we have employed".



APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR - INTERIOR SYSTEMS

Zara Dupont

Sparta Systems



From left: Michael Mainelli; Zara Dupont; FIS President, Philip Brown.

SIR JOHN PIRIE CUP

Recognising and rewarding the achievements of exceptional apprentices in interior systems

Zara joined Sparta Systems having been recommended by Leeds College of Building, where she had completed a full-time course in plastering. During her time at college, Zara was given the opportunity to learn some Interior Systems skills and decided that she would like to do an Interior Systems apprenticeship.

Throughout her training, Zara showed exceptional talent and dedication, completing her Level 1 and Level 2 plastering despite having dyslexia, autism spectrum disorder, asthma and hip problems. She also represented Leeds College of Building in the regional and national SkillBuild competition and won gold in the national SkillBuild final in Edinburgh.

She is a strong advocate for women in construction, attending a session on International Women's Day at Leeds College and supporting the National Association of Women in Construction Yorkshire.

She also put herself forward for the Leeds 2023 Women of the World challenge to raise a barn in 24 hours.

Zara's enthusiasm and willingness to ask questions and learn from others means she has progressed in the role and gained the trust of those she works with. She prides herself on attention to detail. Sparta manager Natalie McDermott comments: "The key thing that stands out with Zara is her willingness to contribute not just within the Sparta team, but also in the context of a wider team, whether in things at college, voluntary work or industry initiatives."

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Zara is an exceptional apprentice and employee, with a voracious energy for promoting her craft inside and outside of work. Winning Gold at SkillBuild cemented her position as an outstanding dryliner.

APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR - INTERIOR SYSTEMS

RUNNERS UP

Ben Comerford

Enrolled on the Level 2 apprenticeship in May 2022 and working with Measom Dryline, Ben has not let challenges in his life get in the way of his training. Ben fractured his lower spine in January 2022, but started work the moment his doctor gave the green light. His commute is about two hours each way, but he turns up every day on time with a positive attitude. He even sacrificed a pre-booked holiday to complete his training. Ben's off-the-job videos, accounts and photos have been applauded and are now used by Measom trainers. Always willing to take overtime, he also finds time to support younger apprentices at Measom.



Michael Aarons

Michael, employed by Measom Dryline, consistently works to a high standard, "performs well and carries a fantastic attitude". Aged 38 and supporting a family, Michael has a positive influence on younger apprentices and is progressing through the training with ease. Although he has type 1 diabetes and this year lost sight in one eye, it has not held him back. Michael is seen as a self-motivated team player – every morning he collects three other apprentices and a supervisor and drives them to site. One colleague enthuses: "His attitude to learn is second to none, he is always on time and is an absolute pleasure to have around."



STUDENT OF THE YEAR - PLASTERING

Kathryn Doyland

Grwp Llandrillo



Kathryn started her plastering course in September 2022. From the start, she requested extra sessions to succeed in plastering and was entered into a Skills Wales competition after only three months' training. Kathryn's confidence grew with her improving hand-skills, and she completed maths and English to Level 2 standard. Her trainer comments that she "soaked up all the information like a sponge", has shown "fantastic application skills", is capable of skimming rooms on her own and is competent with sand and cement work. Her external work is excellent, from forming screeds and dry dash to K-rend and ashlar work. Kathryn has also demonstrated skills outside college by doing her own plastering work, and feedback from customers has been positive. Kathryn has demonstrated excellent timekeeping and impeccable behaviour, and always asks for more to do to keep busy. She now has a job in the college as a workshop technician.

Kathryn is a member of the LGBT community, which can present its own challenges, but she has never let anything stand in the way of her succeeding with her qualifications. Her approach has been excellent and her willingness to learn and do well has driven her on.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Kathryn has a mindset to keep developing, gaining fortitude and using knowledge. Resilient and supportive of others to help develop their own resilience, she is a well-focused and hard-working individual.

THE COLLINO TROPHY

Recognising and rewarding the achievements of exceptional individuals training in plastering

RUNNERS UP

Caroline Moor, Vision West Nottinghamshire College

Caroline joined West Nottinghamshire College in 2022 from the automotive sector but has not been intimidated by the male-dominated environment. She is fully focused on her studies, balancing her working life with caring for her family and horses without complaint, and her enthusiasm for learning is described as infectious. Caroline has a keen eye for setting out. She has performed exceptionally well on all assessments and has begun to carry out her own private work. Caroline understands the need for good timekeeping and is often found helping others. She brings resilience and a sense of fun to her studies and is a popular leader.



Edward Celmins, Carlisle College

Edward signed up for a six-week plastering course in March 2022, progressed to Level 1 and Level 2 and has now found full-time work. He is credited with having a "great attitude" – polite, enthusiastic and keen to better himself. He works hard, helps others and participates in additional studies. Edward is also a strong advocate for mental health as he has had first-hand experience of this. He was awarded the Adult Learner of the Year award at Carlisle College in July 2022 and has continued to work hard and show that a will to succeed can take you a long way.

STUDENT OF THE YEAR - INTERIOR SYSTEMS

Julius Debrah

MPG Contracts



Julius's award was collected by Terry Radon.

RUNNER UP

Dan Titley

Dan joined V&D Interiors in July 2022 as a trainee tacker, progressed to metal studwork and MF ceiling metal, and in May completed the firm's six-week plastering course. He now works on site plastering and drylining. A mature learner, Dan's work ethic is described as a "fantastic" balance to the young team he works with. He works to a high standard



and is able to solve problems. "Dan's attendance is excellent, he is self-motivated and needs no supervision, working well within a team. His training manager comments: "Dan is happiest when he's busy – and with the knowledge he's gained over the last year, he will be very busy."

Trained by Now Get Qualified, Julius has progressed from basic boarding at MPG Contracts to setting out floors and ceilings. He has developed a detailed knowledge of drywall construction, understanding the various wall types to achieve optimum performance. Working closely with drawings, Julius is capable of working confidently on his own and is keen to become a trusted dryliner. He studies drawings diligently, listens carefully to instructions and requests more information if needed. He always has the right tools and materials to hand and uses each day to the full. And although he travels more than two hours each way to work, he is never late.

MPG Contracts says: "Julius is quietly resolute and always has a smile on his face. He completes his work on time and manages to help the MPG management at all times. He is a polite and well-mannered young man who shows a keen interest in his work."

Julius has been involved in construction from an early age and is always looking to further his knowledge and skills. As his assessor comments: "We need more people like Julius coming into drylining and fit-out occupations." MPG adds: "Julius stands out by miles – a real asset to MPG and the training system."

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Julius has a resolute energy and self-belief that belies his age and experience. Completely determined to become an established and exceptional dryliner he has achieved a commendable level of skill and efficiency.

COLLEGE/TRAINING PROVIDER OF THE YEAR - SMALL ORGANISATIONS

DMR Training and Consultancy



DMR attracts praise from employers and trainees alike. Triline Plastering director Kevin Johnson enthuses: "DMR always goes above and beyond to provide exceptional support to learners. We've had employees with learning difficulties such as dyslexia who lacked confidence, but DMR took their worries away and supported them every step of their NVQ. They adapted teaching styles to allow them to fulfil their potential. We would always return to DMR for any training and assessment needs as they provide a top-class service."

Johnsons 1871 manager Sean Tracey adds: "DMR are always supportive to us as an employer and to our employees as learners. They contact us when funding becomes available, which we appreciate. The assessors are superb – flexible and responsive. Our work plans often change at short notice, but they are very accommodating. We can't praise DMR more highly. The lads are all really pleased with their NVQs and there has been a big boost to morale."

Trainee Callum Livingstone gives his side of the story. "DMR offers opportunities for people like me to achieve their qualifications and progress in work, being there every step of the way for support. My assessor adapted to my needs, which really helped with my worries about dyslexia. I learned a lot during the NVQ, including new methods of work and safer working practices, which stands me in good stead for my future career. I now have more options for jobs, I'm more trusted on site and it has opened a lot more doors for me."

THE REGENCY VASE

Independent training providers or colleges that deliver the highest standards in training and qualifications for plastering and interior systems occupations

RUNNER UP

Carlisle College

Carlisle College works with employers on programmes to fulfil skills gaps and develop talent. The college is an NOCN-recognised apprenticeship provider for high-quality end-point assessment (EPA). Among its successes are its EPA outcomes for joinery. In response to the addition of metal framing partitions to the plasterer standard, it has worked with British Gypsum to develop industry insight into the skill. In addition, the college has gained gold status within the Thistle partnership; plastering apprentice Deniss Fridenbergs (see Apprentice of the Year – Plastering, JG Robinson Trophy) recently won the British Gypsum Plastering Apprentice of the Year award; and many teaching staff are involved in industry skills development and quality processes. In the wider community, learners from across the trades have undertaken work experience with social housing projects and volunteered in community project 'Give a Day to the City'. During this academic year, Carlisle College also won Construction Apprenticeship Provider of the Year at the Construction Apprenticeship Awards.



Carlisle College's award was collected by Suzanne Wannop and Vicky Stafford.

COLLEGE/TRAINING PROVIDER OF
THE YEAR - LARGE ORGANISATIONS

NPTC Group of Colleges

South Wales



Totally Plastered has been sending plastering apprentices to NPTC for the past 12 years and applauds its outstanding record. Owner Darren Thomas says: "They cover all aspects of plastering, even fibrous. I have been to the campus on employer engagement days, which has been very useful this year as the qualifications in Wales have changed. Communication from the team is fantastic – I am always updated as to where my apprentice is and how they are progressing."

Pathways Training has been using NPTC for 15 years. Pathways recruits its apprentices from local employers, then liaises with NPTC to arrange timetables and locations, then monitors the apprentices on site and in college. "This is where the plastering section really stands out," says Pathways manager Peter Evans. "They use City & Guilds online portfolios and grant us access so we can log in and see what an apprentice has completed." He says he uses NPTC because it offers Level 3 courses and also encourages students to enter SkillBuild.

Trainee Jack Holmes, who has just completed his NVQ Level 2 with NPTC, says: "I have had a fantastic experience with my training. I came to the college from another college and the difference was clear to see – NPTC plastering tutors are warm and friendly, they have plenty of industrial experience and they stretch you to be the best you can be. The workshop is a fantastic area to train in and the tools provided by the college are the best out there."

JOHN HARMER CHALLENGE BOWL

Independent training providers or colleges that deliver the highest standards in training and qualifications for plastering and interior systems occupations

RUNNER UP

College of North West London

A partnership between the College of North West London and local firm David Andrews Construction has thrived for 20 years, with apprentices gaining essential hands-on experience and practical skills in drylining and plastering. While the college imparts theoretical knowledge and practical assessments, David Andrews provides real-world applications to create rounded professionals. The college tailors its curriculum to align with industry practices, ensuring apprentices learn the most relevant and up-to-date techniques, tools and technologies. This equips them with best practices, safety regulations and job prospects, facilitating a seamless transition from classroom to site. With construction facing a serious skills shortage, apprenticeship schemes help bridge this gap. Most apprentices move into long-lasting employment with the company, which cultivates a committed, skilled workforce. This in turn contributes to the growth and stability of the industry. The relationship between the college and David Andrews provides students with valuable practical experience, industry relevance and an effortless transition to the workplace.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND LONG-TERM FUTURE OF FIBROUS AND GRG PLASTERWORK

KL Langton Decorative Plasterwork



Awarded by Saint-Gobain Formula, a global leader in the supply of specialist gypsum plasters used in traditional fibrous and heritage plastering.

KL Langton is a West Yorkshire company specialising in the production and manufacture of handmade decorative plasterwork for internal and external use. It works on an extensive range of projects, from large modern commercial properties to smaller and more traditional private residences. Its services include the restoration or reproduction of existing plaster (gypsum) mouldings, as well as the supply and installation of standard decorative items such as cornices, arches, ceiling roses, columns and pilasters.

KL Langton teaches on site and at building colleges when asked, holds internal courses – the firm is opening a basic heritage training school in its new workshop in West Yorkshire – and has worked with the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) at sites such as the National Trust’s Coleshill Watermill near Swindon. KL Langton’s team currently includes a first-year heritage apprentice with Historic England, who recently competed the regional SkillBuild elimination round, coming second in his event after only five months with the firm; an apprentice sitting Level 2 plastering; and a trainee.

Keith Langton pays tribute to “the attention my astonishing team give to training/teaching throughout the industry”. He adds: “The contribution by my team is second to none. I believe we all need to put back into the trade what we have taken out – I promote this throughout all our projects, heritage and new works, both site and workshop.”

DRYLINING COMPETENCE AWARD FOR TRAINING PROVIDERS AND COLLEGES WITH AN INDEPENDENT WORK-BASED ASSESSMENT UNIT

Now Get Qualified

A total of 230 drylining students obtained N/SVQ2 qualifications and/or apprenticeships with Now Get Qualified (NGQ) from 2020 to 2023. The body uses social media to promote training and assure people across the UK that a good income and opportunity for development can be found in drylining. By working with the likes of CITB and FIS, it aims to reach people of all ages. It allocates a lot of time supporting clients with drylining qualifications, as well as providing information, support and guidance to new enquirers on training initiatives and processes – often passing on business to an associate provider delivering apprenticeships or hands-on training, which NGQ does not offer.

NGQ works with clients to plan training to suit younger, less experienced operatives; it also supports older, more experienced workers. The training techniques and duration are different but tailored to suit each candidate. All those in the NGQ delivery team spent years in drylining and fit-out and hold Level 2 drylining qualifications, working with people from different backgrounds, age and ability. Systems and regulations develop continuously and the team endeavours to remain current and competent through CPD.

Prior to enrolling a candidate for a drylining qualification, NGQ carries out an initial assessment or profiling to ascertain ability and competence, taking into account their circumstances and any personal limitations. This ensures qualification delivery will work for the learner, not just the assessor. As candidates progress, NGQ provides written reviews and feedback to the individual and the company involved. All candidates are logged on a progress tracker, managed and updated by NGQ. It uses OSAT (on site assessment), which means assessors must visit learners for face-to-face engagement so they can observe skills and inspect the completed work. The NGQ delivery team also follows candidates when their site locations change, even around the country.

The team's professionalism is cited by many as the main reason they return to NGQ. Roisin Flynn from Flynn Interiors says: "With NGQ, we have been able to upskill our workforce and ensure our operatives have the correct qualifications. We would recommend NGQ to any business looking to carry out vocational qualifications – they are professional, helpful, knowledgeable of the industry standards and their approachable nature makes them a joy to work with."

Alex Adams from MPG Contracts adds: "The assessors are a great bunch. The flexible approach works really well, and they provide feedback whenever we request it. They also claim our CITB grants and are great for advising on CSCS requirements."

British Gypsum
SAINT-GOBAIN

BRITISH GYPSUM TROPHY



Trainee Lamar Guiste says: "My assessor contacted me a few days after sign-up to make initial plans. Straightaway I knew what was expected of me. I felt well supported. Would I recommend Now Get Qualified? I already have."

British Gypsum
SAINT-GOBAIN

Awarded by British Gypsum, a leading supplier of building plasters, drylining systems, and part of the Saint-Gobain group.

OUTSTANDING TRAINING PROGRAMMES DELIVERED BY FIS MEMBERS

Zentia

Zentia Installation School provides suspended ceiling training to installers, distributors and Zentia staff. Every new starter at Zenith attends the school for at least one day to learn about the firm's ceiling tiles and grid systems and installing a ceiling grid and tile system. The firm believes in continuous learning and development – all Zentia employees can book refresher courses in the school, as well as training on newly launched products, often alongside customers and installers.

Zentia evolved from Armstrong Ceiling Solutions in 2020 – which itself was created after Knauf divested Armstrong's UK-based manufacturing plants in response to European Commission competition concerns – and Zentia became a standalone brand in November 2021. More than 750 ceiling installers have been trained in the Installation School since the launch of the brand, and thousands of distributors and employees have passed through its doors.

The firm provides one-day courses on the basics of installing a suspended ceiling grid and square tiles to apprentices, new staff and those who want to learn more; two-day courses cover canopy and baffle installation and different shaped ceiling tiles.

A one-day in-depth course is available for experienced ceiling installers as part of the Pinnacle by Zentia partnership scheme. To become a Pinnacle Approved Partner, ceiling installers must complete a training course at the Installation School, after which they become a Pinnacle supervisor and their business an official Pinnacle Approved Partner. Pinnacle Approved Partners have access to help and advice, recycling services, pre-prepared handover documents through an online portal, and training on canopy and baffle installation and new ceiling tile shapes.

Zentia is an active participant in the industry, embedding standards of excellence and sponsoring industry awards and events. More broadly, it is involved in the TransFIRe (Transforming Foundation Industries Research and Innovation Hub) initiative – a UK Research and Innovation-funded programme investigating how the foundations industries can develop innovative solutions to reduce energy and resource use.

Beyond professional relationships, Zentia is also committed to supporting the local community through volunteering, sponsorship and providing apprenticeship opportunities. It aims to create a positive impact and promote the plastering and interiors sector. While the training uses Zentia products, its commitment to health and safety, as well as to manufacturers' recommendations, promotes installer excellence across the industry.

Recognising FIS members that have delivered outstanding benefits to individuals and their organisation through their in-house plastering and/or interior trades training programmes



FIS
FINISHES & INTERIORS SECTOR

MENTORING FOR SUCCESS

Ben Kerlake

carringtonLIME Heritage Skills Training CIC

Ben has been a lime plasterer for 25 years and is passionate about passing on his skills. He has been teaching the craft formally since 2017 and excels in all of his teaching. Ben recently completed his Level 3 award in education and his Level 3 award in assessing vocationally related qualifications, so the company can provide NVQs in heritage plastering. He is present on all courses, teaching both practical and theory, and ensures his knowledge is kept up to date by attending online CPD sessions as well as in-person training programmes. Ben goes above and beyond for all of his students, visiting them on the job to help resolve issues and taking calls in the evenings and at weekends.

In the 11 years carringtonLIME has been in business, Ben has never missed a day's work. He is professional and works with the client or student to achieve the desired end goal. He has attracted much praise. Typical comments include: "Work done very professionally, with care and intelligence" and "A very good trainer with an obvious passion for the subject".

As well as being lead tutor at the firm, Ben leads on all of its live client jobs. He undertakes the initial visit to assess the work and, once costs are agreed, he will handle everything from sourcing staff, ordering materials and liaising with conservation officers to being on the tools.

Ben is always looking to improve the firm's offer, reviewing course content, reading research articles and discussing work with fellow plasterers. And his dedication, passion and work ethic clearly rub off on students – many who started out as general builders will now only work in heritage.

Although Ben's profession is predominantly lime, he has a broad understanding of all elements of heritage building and can offer guidance where others may not be able to.

CarringtonLIME director Kate Kerlake comments: "There is a massive shortage of heritage trades and I can confidently say that without Ben there would be significantly fewer. In June alone, he has taught 64 people how to work with lime.

"Many people talk about the skills shortage but not many are actively doing something about it. Ben is one of those few people and I am proud to be able to work alongside him."

MENTOR AWARD

Recognising individuals who have excelled at mentoring others in achieving success in plastering and/or interior systems through tuition, coaching, support, advice and guidance



Ben's award was collected by Simon Goldsworthy

ACHIEVEMENT

Dave Radley

DMR Training and Consultancy

LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD

DMR managing director Dave Radley has carved out a solid reputation for making an “extraordinary contribution to the community” through company sponsorships and personal challenges in aid of charities. This has included running the London Marathon for Children with Cancer last year and the Great North Run for the Stroke Association this year. Dave has sponsored Holly’s Hearts summer fair in aid of children’s cancer, funded a local boxing club to give underprivileged youngsters a safe venue for the sport, and installed floodlights at a local bowling club. Dave also supports local schools, providing raffle prizes and school dinners, and last Christmas he contributed hampers to Compassion in Action.

Dave started out as an apprentice plasterer for a local company and became passionate about the construction industry, especially interiors. He was keen to progress into training, so went on to qualify as an assessor and started working with the awarding bodies, becoming an IQA and EQA.

In 2013, seeing a gap in the fitted interiors sector, Dave set up his own training firm. Since then, he has provided opportunities for learners and helped other companies offer learning.

Dave is thought of as a warm, approachable person who always takes time to listen to others and consider issues from every perspective. He loves nothing more than team outings to ensure strong relationships throughout the company, which contributes to its success.

When in meetings, be it a company with hundreds of employees or a sole trader, Dave treats every individual with respect. One learner came to the office and told Dave he and his wife were due to have their first child and that the NVQ he was working towards with DMR would have such a positive impact on his family, giving them financial stability and better work prospects. When the learner completed his training, Dave personally delivered a gift to them for their newborn child.

DMG colleague Jody Seal says: “Dave has dedicated his life to the industry, contributed to the professional and personal lives of so many learners, and continues to give back to his community in any way he can. I’m sure his ambition will only continue to grow – his passion and commitment has never wavered since he was an apprentice himself.”





Adam Summers

Market Manager

adam.c.summer@saint-gobain.com

Our site in the UK manufactures at Newark, in Nottinghamshire. We create a wide range of specialist plaster products for the Fibrous & Decorative plaster market; for heritage restoration, traditional fibrous casting, and Glass Reinforced Gypsum (or GRG as it is commonly known).

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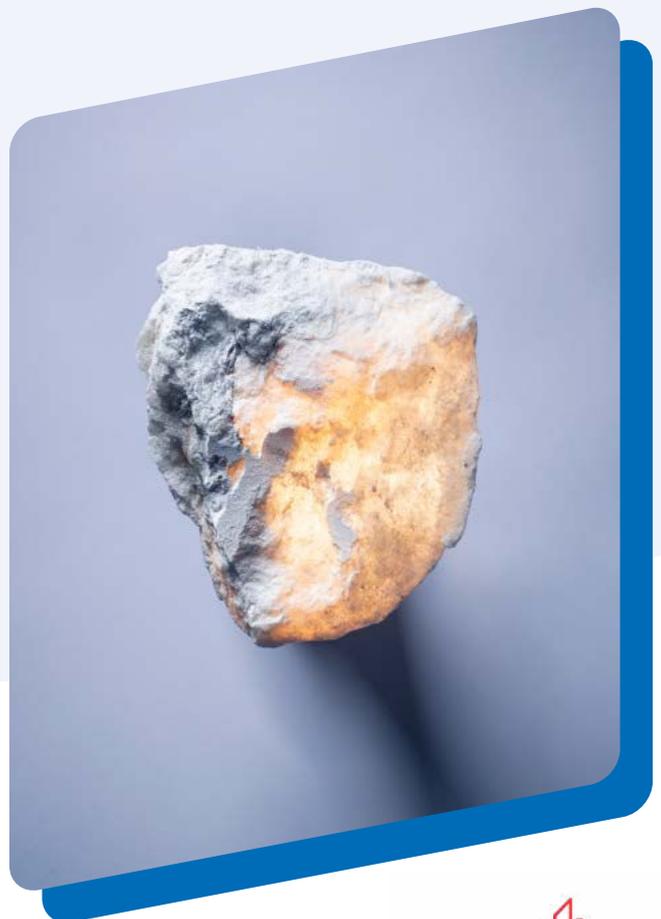


Visit our website to find out more:
www.saintgobainformula.com

Saint-Gobain Formula is a key sponsor of the annual Plaisterers and FIS Training Awards, which is an annual event that aims to recognise the work of colleges and independent training providers.

We recognise the importance of supporting training and we are working closely with key industry figures who are equally passionate about the future of this industry.

Do you have apprentices? Get in touch to see how we can help!





FINISHES & INTERIORS SECTOR

FIS is the not for profit representative body for the £10 billion finishes and interiors sector in the UK. The organisation exists to support its members, improve safety, minimise risk, enhance productivity and drive innovation in the sector. FIS has a dedicated skills team to help members and the wider community with information, advice and guidance on sector careers, apprenticeships and funding.

thefis.org



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF
PLAISTERERS

The Worshipful Company of Plaasterers was originally formed as a trade guild of the City of London to regulate the quality of plastering in the City and to safeguard the welfare and interests of plasterers. Today the Company works in the charitable sector raising funds through its members to support causes linked with the City and plastering.

plaastererslivery.co.uk

Thanks to our sponsors for their generosity

