

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING CASE STUDY

Galloping into Action: Nissan volunteers provide makeover for riding school



Washington Riding Centre is a much-loved local charity providing horse-riding sessions and therapy for children and adults with physical and learning disabilities. Like many community organisations, the centre depends on the support of volunteers.



Nissan offer their employees 2 days of paid time during work hours which supports their commitment to providing social impact in Sunderland. With the riding centre's stable blocks in need of a refresh, 6 enthusiastic employees agreed to come for a day of cleaning and repainting in the main stable block. This was much needed maintenance work to enable the existing core team of volunteers to concentrate of other priority areas of the centre such as lessons and animal welfare.



Paul, Body Shop TPQC Team Leader said that his corporate volunteering was, "[about giving back to the community and our local area.](#)"

By choosing to spend their time at the Centre, employees were able to meet colleagues from different departments as well as learning about the great work happening at the Centre and the powerful impact therapeutic riding has on participants and families.

["It's nice to get out office and meet new colleagues, see what's going on in the community - and support a good cause. I particularly enjoy working with and for animals, so this opportunity really appealed. I might even come back in a personal capacity now I know it's here!"](#)

Katharina, Digital Controller, Nissan



This collaboration resulted in:

- Brighter, cleaner stable areas for riders and animals.
- Boosted morale for staff and volunteers at the centre.
- Strengthened community links between Nissan and a local charity.
- Greater awareness of the charity and its work – with the possibility of volunteers returning to help in their own time.
- A hands-on, rewarding networking and team-building experience for employees.



Gary, a Maintenance Technician (automated guided vehicles) at Nissan said he volunteered because it: **"gets me out of the factory to see a bit more of the community, and it saves the charity from having to pay for this work to be done."**



NO OF CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS	TOTAL NO OF HRS	SOCIAL VALUE (VOLUNTEERING) £
6	5	592.55

For enquiries regarding corporate volunteering email volunteer@sunderlandvsa.co.uk.

Washington Riding Centre welcome new volunteers. For more information email admin@

Nissan Manufacturing UK is a major car manufacturer based in Sunderland: <https://www.nissan.co.uk/>.