



in Schools

Kyriakos Theofanidis

KEY FACTS

Current role: F1 Mechanical Engineer - Academy Trainee

Company: Mercedes AMG HPP

Country: F1® in Schools Greece

Years competing: 2015 - 2016

School: Mandoulides Schools

Following an incredibly successful F1 in Schools journey, which saw Kyriakos become Mechanical Engineer for Infinite Racing - a team which was not only crowned National Champions in its home country of Greece, but also achieved the ultimate title of World Champions at the F1 in Schools 2016 World Finals in Austin, Texas, this talented engineer pursued his passion for motorsport throughout his time at university, before securing a dream role at Mercedes AMG HPP.

CASE STUDY



World Finals 2016

F1 in Schools

A CHILDHOOD PASSION

"From a very young age I was really interested in motorsport due to my father and his rally team. I loved watching his races, and when I grew older, I even joined his team, initially as a crew member and later as his co-driver. The interest I had for cars and motorsport was known to my teachers, and so when my school joined the F1 in Schools competition, they immediately introduced me to it. This was incredibly exciting as it was the first time I could apply my passion within my education environment.

Looking back now, getting involved in F1 in Schools was an important first step on my way to achieving my dream, which was to be a Formula 1 engineer."

BECOMING WORLD CHAMPIONS

"I participated in the F1 in Schools competition during the 2015-2016 season as a Mechanical Engineer with my team Infinite Racing. Infinite Racing was the team of Mandoulides Schools, from Thessaloniki, Greece.

In terms of our journey, we initially won the National Finals in Athens, Greece, achieving seven trophies which included, amongst others, Best Engineering Portfolio, Best Enterprise Portfolio, Best Research & Development and Best Verbal Presentation.

That was only the beginning though, as we finally achieved the title of World Champions at the F1 in Schools 2016 World Finals in Austin, Texas. These moments are truly indescribable and the moment we were awarded the trophy is still a memory that gives me goosebumps."

LEARNING VALUABLE SKILLS

"Since I was one of the engineers in the team, the competition set the foundations of many engineering principles and tools that I later used in my university career, and now in my job.

A great example is the process of learning how to create engineering drawings in CAD software. Knowing how to use CAD while applying engineering principles at such a young age is a very good foundation for the future career of aspiring engineers.

However, alongside these technical skills, F1 in Schools is a platform in which I also learned how to communicate, work efficiently with targets and deadlines, manage failures, and, finally, how to operate within a team and work with my teammates to achieve results and reach a common goal."



Infinite Racing's car



Kyriakos in his role at Mercedes AMG HPP

"The knowledge I gained from F1 in Schools is a resource that follows me today. Alongside Formula Student, they are the two most-contributing factors leading to my current role. The competition provides valuable experience that sets the foundation for the next level of a professional career. Due to that, it is definitely a project that many automotive companies look out for in a candidate."

CASE STUDY