

Frank Haslam Milan's trainee is sailing through to the next round

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Teenager Abdul Mohammed proved that he's 'plain sailing' in the career stakes, when he took part in a number of gruelling outdoor activities to secure an apprenticeship with Frank Haslam Milan West Midlands (FHM).

The 17-year-old showed judges he had the 'X Factor' as part of an Outward Bound scheme hosted by Keepmoat in the Lake District, which saw youngsters take part in team building activities ranging from kayaking to ghyll scrambling and mountain climbing.

Abdul was selected to attend two job interviews after impressing Frank Haslam Milan with his leadership skills during the course, and is now working as a trainee Quantity Surveyor at the Coleshill-based firm.

He was selected out of 12 other young hopefuls who attended the course from the International School in Chelmsley Wood.

"I was delighted to do so well on the Outward Bound course as it led me on to the interview process and then the apprenticeship scheme with FHM," said Abdul who lives in Yardley.

"During the scheme I carried out sailing, kayaking and built rafts - some of the activities really test your mental strength, we had to plunge into freezing cold water wearing shorts as soon as we arrived!

"I was assessed on my commitment and attitude and couldn't believe it went I got through to the final stages of the scheme. I'm really proud to have been selected for an apprenticeship, quantity surveying is just what I want to do and I am hoping to have a long career with Frank Haslam Milan.

Abdul, who speaks fluent Arabic, English and Swedish, started work this month and is attending college on a day release programme, studying towards a BTEC National Certificate in Construction.

The Outward Bound scheme is funded through the Keepmoat Foundation and takes place at the Outward Bound Trust's Ullswater centre in Cumbria.

Katy Leverton, Head of Business Development at FHM, said: "We are delighted to welcome Abdul to the team and to be able to offer him this fantastic opportunity.

"We are sure he will do very well judging by the level of commitment he showed throughout the Outward Bound scheme."