



ABDULKADIR ALISSAWI DRIVE YOUR DREAMS

"It's always uplifting to see any student has integrated well and in Abdulkadir's case, he seems to have progressed just how we would wish him to".

-David Alison Pupil Placements

Shy, respectful and hardworking – it's been an amazing transformation in fortunes for Abdulkadir since joining Blue River. In his own words, "My behaviour improved (a lot) since joining Blue River...I've made friends who are going to last for a long time...I liked that the teachers try their best to teach us and make us succeed for the future...with the help of my teachers I got an apprenticeship in mechanical engineering".

As part of Blue River's commitment to ensuring that every student leaves us with a positive destination, we invite students and their parents in to discuss their future. His mother booked an initial appointment with us and during the meeting she had a number of things to say – firstly she remarked how much happier Abdulkadir seemed to be since joining Blue River Academy - he enjoyed the teaching and had made many new friends. As regards to his future, she further mentioned that her son was a very hands on person and would be ideally suited to a apprenticeship in manual work (eg: car mechanics, plumbing or electronics) rather than pursuing higher education.

Blue River searched various providers and found a local reputable provider who was offering the specific apprenticeship Abdulkadir was interested in – an initial visit was made to the provider for a taster session and to find out exactly what training was on offer – during the taster session Abdulkadir and other students were given a hands on session of the type of work they would be engaged in if they were to take up the offer of an apprenticeship.

Students were supplied with correct overalls and footwear for safety purposes and to give them a feel of the experience they would eventually face, The staff at the organisation were very professional and they managed to capture the attention of our students by allowing them to take apart a car engine and then put it back together – Abdulkadir made up his mind to join this particular provider and will be starting the apprenticeship in September 2014 a garage will also give him the opportunity to work with them once his training is complete.

David Alison (Pupil Placements) had this to say:

"It's always uplifting to see any student has integrated well and in Abdulkadir's case, he seems to have progressed just how we would wish him to".

Abdulkadir's Mother

What I liked about Blue River Academy was it catered for exactly what my son wanted. Concentrating on year 10 and year 11 only was ideal as my son previously was at a very small school - it did not have a mix of children of different background which is very important in our society. In September 2013 he had no place at any school, Blue River Academy saved my son from getting upset about not being at a school with the 2014 exams looming. He made new friends at the Academy and enjoys his days there.

Before joining Blue River Academy he had no direction nor vision of what he wanted to do. His self-esteem was low and he was frustrated too as he had no school place by October 2013. He had lost hope in education all together. The teachers and staff at Blue River I found to be professional at what they do. "I was impressed by the comments teacher made at Parents Day when they told my son "You are intelligent, you can do it". Those words straight away boosted my sons' confidence and self-esteem. The Academy gives hope and encouragement to my son.

This has paved the way for my son's future. He is looking forward to either continuing in education or maybe getting some kind of apprenticeship. Whatever he chooses to do, he and I thank Blue River Academy for their encouragement, support and understanding.

I wish the teachers and office staff of Blue River to be here for many years to come.

