

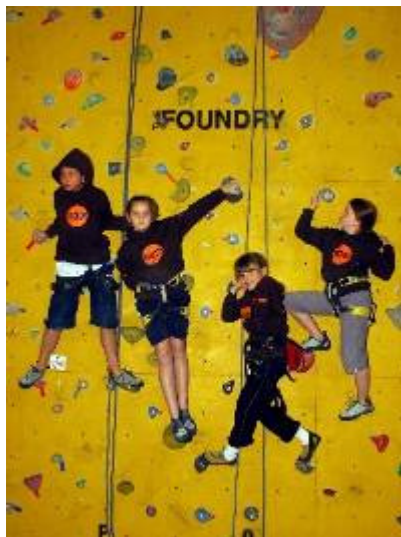


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Saturday, 17th October 2009

Getting to grips with a new sport



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By Hayden Woolley

THESE youngsters are going up in the world - thanks to some of Sheffield's legendary climbers. They are among 20 young climbers who have been selected to join the new Foundry Academy based at the city's Foundry Climbing Centre on Mowbray Street.

The Academy has been set up to give training and support to talented young climbers in the city. And the youngsters, aged seven to 19, will regularly be put through their paces by the likes of Neil Bentley, Jerry Moffatt and Ben Moon.

Academy chairman Neil, also known for his stunt work including doubling for Matt Damon in The Bourne Identity's famous embassy climbing scene, said: "This is a chance for promising young climbers to develop their skills and get some support into competitions I'm really pleased to see it happening and to have so many people giving it their support.

"I'm not sure many of them know who I am! I tend to be caught up in running of The Foundry so this is a great opportunity for me to get out and meet some of the young climbers and their parents."

Other experienced climbers are also supporting the new academy with many instructors giving up their free time to do coaching.

Academy secretary Danny Brown said: "We've really pleased to have the city's climbing community behind us and we hope these young people will continue the spirit of climbing which is so much a part of Sheffield.

"Sheffield is known as a world centre for climbing and The Foundry is at the heart of that but up until now we've never had a Foundry climbing team."

The Foundry is one of four indoor-climbing walls in the city hosting the monthly Sheffield Walls Bouldering League. The next event will take place on December 11 at The Matrix climbing wall at Sheffield University. For more information visit www.foundryclimbing.com or contact Neil Bentley on 0114 2796331.

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