



Student Union Relaunch

#BeMoreBHASVIC, see further information inside on how we are supporting our first and second year students.

Useful Links:

www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard
[www.twitter.com/studentservs](https://twitter.com/studentservs)

[www.twitter.com/BHASVICLibrary](https://twitter.com/BHASVICLibrary)
www.facebook.com/studentsservicesbhasvic



Welcome

Welcome to a new academic year at BHASVIC – whether you are a new or returning parent. I hope that students have settled quickly into life at college and are successfully navigating the academic challenges of studying at this level, along with new routines of travel and timetables, and new relationships with both teachers and friends.

Studying at sixth-form is a period of transition which bridges the gap between school and adult life. It is a transition that we are used to supporting, with plenty of advice and guidance and with a number of safety nets available. How to flourish at this level is a test of maturity as much as anything else; students need the maturity to manage the many competing demands in their busy lives. This takes discipline, but it is also takes maturity to know when not to panic or be perpetually anxious about college work and grades. Wellbeing is much more important!

BHASVIC's results have improved yet again, even against last year's record breaking outcomes and you can read about them later in this newsletter. There is a learning culture here that brings the best out in our students, but one key message is that what makes a BHASVIC student, ISN'T just the qualifications. Our new Student Contract asks that students **#BeMoreBHASVIC – which is a short way of saying we want them to Be Happy, Active, Successful, Valued, Independent members of our Community.**

Because a happy student – one who looks after themselves and looks out for others, and who actively participates and gets involved in the college community – is likely to be a successful student (and successful in life!). And we think these values are ones we can all subscribe to at BHASVIC.

**Best wishes,
William Baldwin**

Further to our recent email communication, this is to confirm from **30 September** you will be able to access your online Parent Advantage account, which enables you to track the progress of your young person online. **This is a secure account which shows you up-to-date attendance, timetable, support plans, exam entries and other information.** Once activated, Parent Advantage will be available by clicking the link on the Parent/Carer Dashboard here: <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard>. In the week beginning **30 September**, we will send two emails to this address. One will have an authentication code to activate your account and instructions to access the system. The second will allow you to link your account to your student's account. **If you require assistance please email CIS@bhasvic.ac.uk** who will be happy to help you.

Click here for access to **Parent Advantage Account** as mentioned above Parent Advantage ►► can be found here: **Parents and Carers Dashboard** with instructions. **We have also added a Notice Board on the front page to alert you to any new and important information.**

SUPPORTING TRANSITION FROM SCHOOL TO COLLEGE

We are mindful that the transition from school to college can be both an exciting and daunting time for students and parents/carers. Students all adapt at their own pace and require different levels of support.

The challenges are also varied; they can include:

- learning to manage their time and adapting to the workload and intensity of study at this level
- adjusting to the size of the college, feeling comfortable with new friendship groups
- understanding the boundaries and expectations of a college environment with its emphasis on independence.

A focus of tutorial sessions in the first few weeks will be to assist students in settling in and supporting their individual needs.

It is important to recognise that some level of stress and anxiety is an expected, normal and healthy reaction to the numerous challenges our young people face during their time at college. However, for a number of students, their stress and anxiety can reach levels which start to have a negative impact on their day to day lives, including their ability to engage with, and participate fully in, their learning.

If this happens we want to reassure you that there are services in place to help support them. Their **Personal Tutor** is always an excellent first port of call and, for those who may need more intensive or specialist advice, we have a dedicated team of Counsellors and a Welfare Coordinator who specialises in providing practical advice. For a full list of services, and the Guidance and Students Services team information, please see <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/student-life/our-support-service>.

Our **team of Guidance Managers** are also able to help with support and advice, **every student has a Personal Tutor and Guidance Manager assigned to them.**

Making the transition from school to college can sometimes feel as daunting for parents and carers, so we have designed this short guide to support you in this journey. We hope it will help you in knowing what to expect and how to access advice and support whilst your young person is at BHASVIC.

Please click here to view Making the Transition Guide for New Parents and Carers, other helpful resources are our A-Z Parents and Carers Guide and Young People Support and Services.

We welcomed our new A1 students to BHASVIC on Wednesday 11 September. Our Welcome Morning activities aim to make students to feel supported through the significant change they will experience at a sixth form college. Students also begin to make connections and friendships within their tutor group and orientate themselves around our college. All students have been given access to key information such as where to find the **A-Z Student Guide** and further helpful resources.

During the morning our main hall was buzzing with stalls offering new opportunities for students from the **National Citizenship Service, Volunteering Abroad, the Duke of Edinburgh Award** plus many more. Our **Student Union** were on hand in the Copper Café to offer advice and support along with music, a treasure hunt and table tennis.



FRESHERS AND ENRICHMENT FAIR

Our Freshers and Enrichment Fair took place on Tuesday 24 September allowing students opportunities to sign up to weekly enrichment and many external organisations joined us to offer students advice and support. These included:

✓ Brighton and Hove Council: Road Safety team	✓ Allsorts	✓ Springboard Project
✓ Young Carers Project	✓ The Hummingbird Project: Global Social Club	✓ Concordia
✓ NHS: Public and Patient Participation Team	✓ National Citizens Service	✓ ru-ok?
✓ NHS Sexual Health Screening team	✓ MIND	✓ Black and Minority Ethnic Young People's Project (BMEYPP)
✓ University of Sussex	✓ RightHere	✓ University of Brighton
✓ YMCA WISE	✓ Samaritans	✓ Young People's Centre

The Student Union were on hand to inform students how they could join societies representing a broad range of interests. These included, **Classics Society, Christian Union, Debate Society, LGBTQ+ Society, German Society, Socialist Society, Law Society, BHASVIC ZINE, Maths Society, Software Development Society, Model United Nations, Creative Writing Society, Film Review Society** and more.



THE STUDENT UNION



The Student Union hosted their first **BHASVIC Forum** of the year on Thursday 19 September in the main hall launching some exciting new initiatives, which include:


- A Student Union help desk now based in Student Services and staffed every lunch time by the Executive Committee.
- **'The Shadow Student Union'**, consisting of A1 students can apply to support the current Student Union standing for election in 2020-21.
- Personal Tutors will ask for 'volunteers' to participate as 'Ambassadors'. There is no limit on who takes part in each tutor group.
- BHASVIC Forum to take place half-termly on Wednesdays in the main hall at lunch time, this replaces the old Student Council.
- Music, snacks and badges for participants.

LUNCH TIME CLUBS

We have many lunch time clubs running. New for this year is The Dials Social Club who meet in Student Services every Monday. It aims to support students to lead interconnected lives through widening

social networks, bringing together activities, dialogue, food and friendship. The club is for any student who wants to improve social bonds. There will be regular Dials twilight events throughout the year.

Keeping Student's Informed
 Information is posted on a daily basis via the **Student Bulletin** and the **Student VLE**. All students are reminded during their tutor session to check these communication channels.



Careers Enrichment
 A full list of past and present enrichment can be found here: <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/student-life/enrichment>

INTRODUCING STUDY SUPPORT

If your young person is struggling with their studies and would benefit from some academic support, we can provide **Additional Learning Support** to help them to manage the following:



HOMEWORK TASKS



MEETING DEADLINES



ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS



STUDY SKILLS



EXAM PREPERATION AND REVISION TECHNIQUES

We offer weekly timetabled sessions of study support and a number of subject specific workshops to support their learning needs.

Please ask your young person to discuss their concerns with their personal tutor or subject teacher who will complete a referral for appropriate support.

A help desk has also been running for students in the main hall since Wednesday 11 September and closes on Friday 4 October. Staffed by our Guidance Managers and Curriculum Quality Team, the help desk offers advice from course changes to student ID cards.



IT'S BEEN A BUSY BHASVIC SUMMER

Our Admissions Department and Student Services staff did an incredible job organising several major events during the summer including; **Moving On Day** for our students starting in September 2019, this year **1800 students** attended. We introduced our new **College Contract** during tutor time, a copy can be found here: **College Policies** under our **Student Behaviour Policy**.

Our **Taster Day** took place on 3 July and we hosted **1400 secondary school pupils** looking to join in September 2020. They got to experience a day at sixth form college, taking part in four subjects of their choice; please click here for further information on how to apply: <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/admissions>



A1 Enrolment happened on 29 and 30 August - We invited students starting in September 2019 to enrol in our Sports Hall. Students meet with teaching staff on a one to one basis to complete their enrolment form, bringing in exam grades and certificates. **Our Finance, Additional Learning Support and Guidance Team were all on hand to support and advise students at the start of their BHASVIC journey.**



▶ **BHASVIC Students joined the City's Pride celebrations** [click on the link for more information](#)



BHASVIC RESULTS DAY 2019

BHASVIC's results have improved yet again, even against last year's record breaking outcomes.

PASS RATE
99.6%



From a total of 3,600 A level exams, 90.2% of grades achieved A* - C with 71.3% gaining A*-B which yet again demonstrates that BHASVIC is able to consistently deliver quality outcomes to a large number of students.

Our BTEC results are also of a high quality with a 98.7% pass rate and 66.2% of outcomes at Distinction or above.

This round of A levels saw all subjects adopt the new high stakes exams taken after two years of study, with BTECs also seeing the introduction of externally assessed exam components. With qualifications getting harder, this makes the achievements of BHASVIC students all the greater.

*William Baldwin, Principal said "I'd like to congratulate our students and pay tribute to the schools who laid the foundations for this success. I'd also like to thank parents and carers for the support they provide – they are such an important factor in the success of our community. Regardless of the grades achieved, if a student can say 'I've done my best' then they should be rightly proud. For some students, turning up to an exam is a big achievement in itself and it is important to remember this. What always interests me as a Principal is the individual stories behind these results – I love hearing what a great time students have had here, how we have helped support them and what they plan to do after BHASVIC. I think we are firmly known as a centre of excellence with outstanding outcomes, but also as a place where our students receive first class guidance and support, so that they **Become Happy Active Successful Valued Independent members of the Community #BeMoreBHASVIC**".*



NEW BUILDING



Some of you will know that the Old Shoreham Road car park is now a building site and will remain so for this academic year as we erect a new four storey teaching block which is due to open in August 2020. This building will house a Theatre space, specialist Music rooms, Science labs, Media and Film suites along with general classrooms and social space. This project is a crucial part of our accommodation strategy to ensure that we are able to provide fit for purpose 21st century teaching space for our students.

With a project of this size, there will inevitably be some disruption. We have taken steps to minimise this by engaging with the Project Managers and Contractors on this issue by writing it in to their 'Delivering Excellence' promise. Both have extensive experience of working in education and managing sites where teaching has occurred concurrently. There will be noise monitoring equipment around the site along with acoustic attenuation barriers to ensure any intermittent disruption is limited. Regular updates on the progress of this build can be found on the college website under <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/the-college/new-building>

CAREERS ENRICHMENT DAY 12 JULY

A diverse range of more than 40 careers focused activities were offered to all year one students. Please see full information here: <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/student-life/enrichment>

▶ **Learning important life skills with First Aid Training**



◀ **Chemistry University Visit**



◀ **Visit from Brighton Film School**

STUDENT SERVICES NEWS



Our Student Services Team were delighted to hear our Careers Advisers **Lynne Trower and Adele Fox** were finalists in this year's **Outstanding Contribution to Apprenticeships Awards 2019** hosted by Rate my Apprenticeship - more details of the event can be found here <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/news/bhasvic-careers-team-finalists-in-the-national-outstanding-contribution-to-apprenticeships-award>. We are very lucky to have the skills and knowledge they provide for BHASVIC students.

They would also like to share the Careermag link to help you support your young person.



NCS (NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE) SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT



As part of the development of our **"Futures Framework" employability programme** we are once again offering all students the chance to get involved in the NCS Action programme during the Autumn term (second year students need to be under 18 for Phase 1). There are three phases:

Phase 1 – 24 – 27 October – Location: Osmington Bay, Weymouth
 Phase 2 – 28 – 30 October – Location: BHASVIC (daytime only)
 Phase 3 – In the local area at times and dates to suit.

Full information can be found here: <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/student-life/enrichment>. Sign up by Thursday 3 October, please speak to our Student Services Department if you require financial support.

BHASVIC is participating in a **national Meningitis B vaccination study/programme**. We are about to enter Phase 2 for our current A2 students which involves them receiving the actual vaccination. The study commenced, and Phase 1 took place in September 2018. Thank you to all the students who have taken part in this.

PROGRESS REVIEWS (TERMLY) FOR ALL STUDENTS

Once a term you will receive information through Parent Advantage about your young person's progress through Progress Reviews. Current planned publication dates are:

- Monday 25 November
- Friday 20 March

At the end of the summer term, progression exam results will also be available to A1 parents and carers via Parent Advantage. Please see our website for full information: **Progress Reviews**



HIGHER EDUCATION AT BHASVIC

We have plenty of support for our students applying to Higher Education. This is mainly delivered through the tutorial system but may well include advice and guidance from teaching staff. For full information see here: [Higher Education at BHASVIC](#)

Student Destinations - The poster shown here has been displayed around tutor rooms in the Student Services building. The **UCAS Timeline** can be found on the website for students wishing to apply for University, **the application process begins for A1 students in January 2019 and for A2 students in September 2020.**



We were delighted to host four of the UK's top Universities on Tuesday 17 September they included: Imperial, University College London; London School of Economics and King's College.



EX BHASVIC student Alessandro Mettry accepts place at Cambridge on their new Adjustment scheme, read more here:

<https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/news/a-team-students>

Student Destinations

Students leaving June 2018
(2019 leavers stats due March 2020)

In June 2018 1209 A2 students left BHASVIC to move onto future pathways

This included entering higher education, employment, further education (including art foundation), apprenticeships and taking a gap year



Many students continued, or began, new employment & apprenticeships

A2 students can choose the Employability and Enterprise tutorial pathway.

Opportunities that our students have taken up in the local area include:



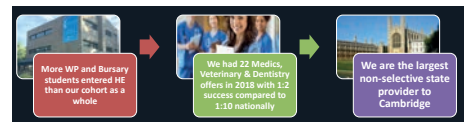
102 students began an Art Foundation course, many at Brighton Met or Northbrook, but some far afield such as Central St Martins

40 students continued into Further Education



Further Education can be particularly useful for a change of pathway

Around 25% of our students who intend to enter HE take a gap year which can include volunteering abroad, working for a year or travelling



BHASVIC NEWS

Please see BHASVIC News keeping parents and carers informed on a regular basis.

BHASVIC are proud to be part of an independently chaired, **Sussex-wide review of Emotional Health and Well Being service provision for young people up to age 18.** A report is due to be published with key recommendations for improvements, **we are making our voice heard.**

BHASVIC MUSIC STUDENTS ATTENDED TUC BRIGHTON CONFERENCE – To view video footage click on the photo.



BHASVIC'S ESOL DEPARTMENT

BHASVIC'S ESOL Department consists of students every year who study with us where English is not their first language. A total of 46 ESOL students completed in June 2019. Full information for our ESOL department can be found here: <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/courses/esol>



Head of Department
Jamal Salman

BHASVIC PARENTS' FUND

Every year parents and carers can contribute by donating funds to the college, if they are able to. BHASVIC would welcome this financial support in order to provide the best possible resources and facilities for our students. The money given helps finance activities including:

- sport
- music and drama
- also helps equip the Library and Sports Centre
- providing computers
- supports Student Union functions

For this reason, we invite you to assist us by making a voluntary contribution to BHASVIC with a suggested donation of £75. Depending on your circumstances, you may wish to give more or less this sum. You will find further information on how to do this here: <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard/payments-and-donations>.

We thank you for the support if you are able to do this.



Payments & Donations

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Please always check the college calendar here <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/calendar> for a detailed schedule of the Academic year, (it is possible amendments are made during the year).

OCTOBER

Wednesday 2 October and Thursday 10 October -

Meet The Tutor Evenings for A1 Parents.

Friday 25 October - Half Term.

NOVEMBER

Monday 4 November - Term starts.

Tuesday 12 – Friday 15 November - All students study leave/A1 students attend Progress Review meetings.

Monday 25 November - Progress Reviews published to parents (Round 1).

Thursday 28 November - A2 Parents Evening surname A-K.

DECEMBER

Wednesday 4 December - A2 Parents Evening surname L-Z.

Thursday 19 December - Autumn Term ends.

JANUARY

Monday 6 January - Spring Term begins.

Thursday 9 January - A1 Parents Evening surname A-K.

Wednesday 15 January - A1 Parents Evening surname L-Z.

FEBRUARY

Monday 10 February - A2 Mock Exams Week – modified timetable for ALL students.

Friday 14 February - 1st Half of Spring Term ends.

BHASVIC

 @BHASVIC

 /bhasvic.ac.uk

Further Information and Useful Links:

www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard
www.twitter.com/studentsservs

www.facebook.com/studentsservicesbhasvic
www.twitter.com/BHASVICLibrary