



Changing lives through learning

11 January 2012

Dear A1 Student,

Welcome back!

Later this term you will be considering your plans for next year. If you plan to continue into the second year at BHASVIC then you will be considering which course(s) will make up your full programme of study. This is called the A1 – A2 Transfer process.

I am pleased to say that every year the great majority of our A1 students achieve well and progress to the A2 year. You will get a lot more information about this process and support from your teachers and tutor nearer the time. For now you need to know a few key facts which will help you prepare for your A1 – A2 Transfer.

BHASVIC is a four-course College. The expectation is that all students will normally take four courses, or their equivalent, in year 2. Continuing on a course, or into the second year at BHASVIC, is not automatic!

In making decisions about A1-A2 Transfer the College looks at four criteria:

1. Achievement

This is a measure of how likely you are to succeed on the second year of a course given your academic performance in the first year.

In order to be eligible to continue a course into the second year you must achieve at least a pass (at AS level this is E or above).

If you do not pass **two** of your AS Level (or equivalent) subjects that you intended to continue with then you may be able to continue into the second year at BHASVIC if we have a suitable programme of study for you, with subjects and courses that you want to study and are likely to pass. It is a requirement that your programme includes at least one A level equivalent in year 2. If you do not pass **three** or **four** of your AS Levels (or equivalent) then it is highly unlikely that you will be able to continue studying at BHASVIC.

2. Attendance

If your attendance for the year is below 90% continuing into the second year may not be possible. The College will take account of authorised absences or other factors beyond your control that we are aware of which may have affected your attendance. Your attendance in the second half of the summer term (after the exam period is over) is particularly important. If you do not attend enough lessons in this period you will not be allowed to continue with that subject in September. If your attendance is low across more than one subject and/or tutorials you may not be allowed to enrol in September.



3. Attitude to College

If you have been on a cross-college Amber or Red Action Plan with issues that remain unresolved or there is also evidence of poor attendance then you will be interviewed by your Senior Tutor and conditions for your transfer into the second year will be clarified with you.

Students wishing to progress to the second year must show that they have engaged fully with the College by **completing all three units of the Work Skills coursework** studied in Tutorial (or provide evidence of previous completion of the same modules).

We expect all our students to engage fully with the two **Enrichment Days** by participating in relevant activities.

You will not be allowed to start the A2 year if you owe the College any money (such as unpaid OLC fines, deposits or course charges)

4. Course choices for the second year

In the second year students are expected to take **four courses** (or their equivalent). This does not mean that you carry on with all four from year 1. You may choose to continue with only one, two or three courses in year 2 (although three is most common). If this is the case you will be required to start new courses to take your programme of study up to the equivalent of four courses in year 2. There are a considerable number of courses available to A2 students that are generally more appropriate for a student in their second year. You will get much more detail about these when you are closer to the A1-A2 Transfer process.

I know that most students make a great success of their first year and have no difficulty meeting these criteria to continue. However, if you feel that your progress so far might affect your successful transfer into year 2 then you will need to address this before the A1 – A2 Transfer process and maintain any improvements up until the end of the year.

Between now and March your tutor will be able to help you plan for the rest of the year and resolve any problems that you may have in meeting the criteria above.

Now you should know what you need to do to ensure your place at BHASVIC next year.

Best wishes for your January exams if you have any and we hope you have a good end to your first year.

Kind regards,



James Moncrieff
Assistant Principal
(Director of Student Services)