



## A1 (first year) Teaching and Learning Update

### Changes to the structure of the Summer Term for A1 students

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

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This update provides important information for our first year (A1) students, teachers, tutors, parents/carers and all other members of the BHASVIC community.

We feel it is important to communicate these changes before the commencement of the Easter Holidays to provide as much clarity about the future as we possibly can. However, we are fully aware that some of these changes might raise additional questions and might necessitate further, more precise, working out. Please appreciate that it is not yet possible to outline detailed plans of this sort but we would like to reassure you that we are seeking to anticipate all such issues. Moreover, everything is dependent on the progress of the pandemic and the on-going status of the government restrictions in which BHASVIC will be operating. It is this over-arching context to which we must be most sensitive and which will ultimately condition our choices.

**Progression Exams** – these will no longer be taking place in the Summer or Autumn Terms for students. With the disruption to normal classroom teaching which has occurred, as soon as we are able to return to our college campus we want to prioritise classroom teaching and learning, rather than running a formal exam timetable which requires at least eight days of study leave.

#### Simple Calendar overview:

Date	Event
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>End of Spring Term</b>
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May  (Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May is a national Bank Holiday)	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Half Summer Term</b> <b>A1 teaching and learning</b>
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	<b>Summer Half Term Holiday</b>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Student Progression Leave</b> <b>Teacher INSET Week</b>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June - July	<b>A1 teaching and learning</b> <b>Progress Review</b> <b>UCAS Predicted Grades and draft References</b>
Mid-July	<b>End of Year</b> for A1 students

August/September	<b>Start of Term</b>
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**Calendar overview with detailed notes:**

<b>BHASVIC Calendar for A1 students</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>End of Spring Term</b>	
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Easter Holidays</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will be on holiday.</li> <li>• Teaching and tutoring staff will be on annual leave.</li> <li>• Courses will have independent work for students to complete.</li> </ul>
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May  (Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May is a national Bank Holiday)	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Half Summer Term</b>  <b>A1 teaching and learning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 weeks of uninterrupted teaching and learning.</li> <li>• Courses will focus on adapted schemes of work and remote learning activity.</li> <li>• Content will be optimised to ensure momentum in our students' learning and readiness for return to classroom-based learning as soon as that becomes available again.</li> <li>• The continuation of the course specification will take into account the context of national lockdown, and the impact of the pandemic on our community, whilst minimising loss of learning opportunities for students on their qualifications.</li> </ul>
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	<b>Summer Half Term Holiday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will be on holiday.</li> <li>• Teaching and tutoring staff will be on annual leave.</li> </ul>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Student Progression Leave</b>  <b>Teacher INSET Week</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will be on Progression Leave. This will involve supported and set activities to help our A1 students research, explore and prepare for their next steps after BHASVIC.</li> <li>• Application processes take place in earnest in the Autumn Term, and with the potential of continued lockdown, we want our students to have time to prepare and navigate virtual open days as well as any changes in application systems and job opportunities.</li> <li>• Students will be provided with structured independent activities to guide them, which will be used as a basis for student and tutor work in the Autumn Term.</li> <li>• Teachers will be responding to and planning teaching and learning for the second half of the summer term and the whole of the second year, in light of the impact of COVID-19.</li> </ul>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June - July	<b>A1 teaching and learning</b>  <b>Progress Review</b>  <b>UCAS Predicted Grades and draft References</b>	<p><b>A1 Teaching and Learning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will continue remote teaching and learning. If we are able to return to the college campus, classrooms lessons will be re-instated.</li> </ul> <p><b>Progress Review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We seek to provide students and parents/carers with a 'progress grade' for each student on each course, which summarises their progress on the course across</li> </ul>

		<p>the first year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These grades will not have any status beyond a guide to our students – they will take into account the significant circumstances our students and teachers have had to face, including the wide array of personal circumstances and disadvantages your community have had to contend with.</li> <li>• The Progress Grades will form a basis on which our teachers and guidance team will support students in their best options for their programme of study into the second year, including whether dropping a course and taking a Recovery qualification is the best option for them.</li> </ul> <p><b>UCAS Predicted Grades and draft references</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will be creating references and UCAS predicted grades following our normal timetable to do so.</li> <li>• It is important that students go into the summer holidays with this information, to support them in making informed research and choices about their next steps.</li> <li>• We are very aware of the context in which these predictions will have to be made, and will be making our predictions very much with a positive and aspirational mind-set for our students.</li> <li>• Predicted grades and references are always finalised and updated in the Autumn Term and more information will be provided about this nearer the time.</li> </ul>
Mid-July	<b>End of Year</b> for A1 students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As yet, we cannot determine the 'end of term' for our first year students, and will establish this nearer the time, once the national picture on lockdown and college closure has become clearer.</li> </ul>
August/September	<b>Start of Term</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will be working on the structure and timings of our Autumn Term (September to December 2020) for students entering their second year of study with us.</li> <li>• There is much to plan and consider here, and we aim to be communicating the details of the calendar and arrangements before the end of June.</li> </ul>

James Moncrieff,  
Deputy Principal