



BHASVIC Widening Participation Christmas Update



The BHASVIC WP team would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It has been a busy start to the year with students settling in to a new environment and becoming familiar with their courses, and we hope that they have had a positive start to their College experience.

This newsletter is intended to summarise the main activities currently being offered by universities, whilst also informing you of other opportunities that may be appropriate.

We appreciate that this is a packed issue but hope that you find the information useful. Most events are free of charge, but where there is a cost implication we have highlighted it.

Please note: If a student is successful in applying to any activity they must check with their teachers that it is ok for them to attend, (this only applies if the event is in College time and will result in them missing College to attend). Once they have done this, they must notify our attendance team and the WP team - this can be done by emailing outofcollege@bhasvic.ac.uk and copying in studentservices@bhasvic.ac.uk

Reminder - WP Applications close at the end of January

Please see below links to the application forms for the WP schemes for the local partners we work with. Each scheme has its own individual application process:

University of Brighton - [Compact Plus](#)

University of Sussex - [First Generation Scholars](#)

InTo University

Check the criteria to see if you're eligible to apply.

If you meet one of these:

- FSM (in the last 6 years)
- Living in social housing
- Income less than £25,000

Or two of these:

- Young carer
- Special Educational Needs
- English as Additional Language
- First generation to go to university
- Challenging behaviour at school (previously suspended or excluded)

Then call InTo University on 01273 602 102 to register or speak to the staff in the BHASVIC Student Services team

University of Sussex - Physics and Astronomy - Astronomy Masterclass

Astronomy Masterclass - Full day, Tuesday 19 December 2017 at the University of Sussex

The University of Sussex hold an annual Astronomy Masterclass consisting of a range of activities including build a comet, how to discover exoplanets, calculate the age of the universe, a research lecture and discussion sessions.

The activities are led by members of the Astronomy Research Group and there are opportunities to discuss their work, including the James Webb Space Telescope due to be launched in late 2018/early 2019.

A-level students are welcome to attend unaccompanied. Please click [HERE](#) to see a poster for the event

For more information or to book your place, email physicsoutreach@sussex.ac.uk

University of Brighton - Thinking about University

An event aimed at giving an introduction to University, and provides advice for parents and carers. The evening will begin with a campus tour and will give information on the following:

- Making the right subject and course choice
- How to use the UCAS Higher Education convention
- Submitting a strong application
- Introduction to the student funding system
- Considering how work and voluntary experience can strengthen your personal statement

Places are limited so please contact the University of Brighton as soon as possible to book your place – it is a great opportunity to visit the University but also to gain information that is useful when supporting your students in their progression planning.

The event will take place on: **Wednesday 7 February 2018**
Time: **18:00 – 20:30**
Venue: **Checkland Building, Falmer Campus, University of Brighton**
Target Group: **Parents of students in Year 12**

To register your interest or for more information email compactplus@brighton.ac.uk You can also register for this event at <https://www.brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/applying-to-brighton/schools-teachers/compact-brighton/compact-events/index.aspx>

Upcoming subject specific events at the Universities of Brighton and Sussex

Date	Time	Subject	University/Scheme
Wednesday 31 January 2018	10:00 - 14:30	Biology Experience Day	University of Sussex
Thursday 1 February 2018	10:45 - 15:15	Understanding American Politics	University of Sussex
Wednesday 7 February 2018	10:00 - 15:00	Black Lives Matter	University of Sussex
Wednesday 17 January 2018	10:00 - 14:30	Creative Writing and English Literature Taster Day	University of Brighton, Falmer campus
Wednesday 28 February	10:00 - 15:30	Value of Sport Conference	University of Brighton, Eastbourne Campus
Wednesday 21 March 2018	12:45 - 15:30	History A level Revision Lecture	University of Brighton, Moulsecoomb Campus
Friday 23rd March 2018	09.00 – 14:00	Tourism, Hospitality and Event Management 6th Form Conference	University of Brighton, Eastbourne Campus
Tuesday 27 March 2018	10.00 - 12.00 or 14:00 – 16:00	Pharmacy and Biomolecular Science Taster Workshops	University of Brighton, Moulsecoomb Campus
Thursday 31 May 2018	10:00 - 15:30	Social Science Conference	University of Brighton, Falmer Campus
Wednesday 18 July 2018	10.00am - 1.00	Chemistry Conference	University of Brighton, Moulsecoomb Campus

Events may be added at any time by the universities. To view the up to date information on events being held by the University of Brighton please click [HERE](#)

Or

To view the up to date information on events being held by the University of Sussex please click [HERE](#)

Free of charge. Students must be able to travel to the event independently.

For the University of Sussex students must be part of the First-Generation Scholars Scheme (first in their family to go to university, excluding siblings). All students can attend Brighton events.

A confirmation will be sent via email (from the university, not BHASVIC) if a student is successful in securing a place.

Making the Most of Summer – University of Brighton

Parents, Carers and Students in Year 12 who are thinking about applying to University are invited to join this seminar.

The following topics will be included:

- Writing a strong personal statement
- Planning to fill the gaps over the summer
- Volunteering
- Work Experience
- Wider Reading
- Q&A session with staff and current students

The event will take place on: **Wednesday 16 May 2018**
Time: **18:00 – 20:30**
Venue: **Checkland Building, Falmer Campus, University of Brighton**

For more information please email: compactplus@brighton.ac.uk

Upcoming Events at UCL

Upcoming events for Widening Participation students at **UCL** can be found by clicking [HERE](#)

The university website includes events that are not suitable for our students – I have listed the ones that are suitable below. Please check the eligibility criteria before applying to these events.

Year 12

- [Gateways Conferences](#)
- [Futures in Finance Spring School](#)
- [Masterclasses](#)
- [Summer Challenge](#)
- [Summer Schools](#)
- [Taster Courses](#)
- [Discover UCL Summer School for D/deaf and Hard of Hearing Students](#)
- [Do Something Different Day](#)
- [Envision@UCL](#)
- [UCL Investigates ... Museums Summer School](#)

London Taster Days

If a student feels that they want to know more about a subject before considering studying it at university, or would like to improve their personal statement, these **FREE** London taster days are a great way to do some research.

Students apply for a course in a subject area of their choice - if they are successful, they will spend time at a London based university meeting academics and students whilst also attending lectures and workshops.

Click [HERE](#) to find out more

If you are interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)

The Nuffield Trust run research placements that are available to students interested in STEM subjects. Attendance at one of these events would be a great addition to a personal statement. **This is not a free activity so please check the**

costs involved when applying.

Please see this link for more information www.nuffieldresearchplacements.org

Applications for this event are to be made directly to the Nuffield Trust and opened on Thursday 30 November 2017

Access Accountancy

Access Accountancy is a movement for change across the accountancy profession. Working towards everyone having an equal chance of accessing the profession. Accountancy firms and professional bodies have committed to measurable outcomes, which aim to deliver real change and welcome talented and ambitious young people to the profession from all backgrounds, supporting social mobility. Please follow this [LINK](#) to access further information

Futurewise courses and events

Unsure what subjects to study? Want to learn more about university courses or discover your career path? These career insight events will really help you and are being offered in a wide range of subject areas.

Take part in networking sessions with employers, hear from leading experts in their field, learn valuable skills and meet new friends from other colleges. All of this will help you prepare for your next steps and set you up for success in years to come.

Please click [HERE](#) for full details

Please note that students will need to book the event and travel independently, they will also need to **pay the non-member price for the taster day.**

This is not a free activity so please check the costs involved when applying.

Interested in Accountancy and Finance

If you are interested in Accountancy and Finance there are a range of schemes available to support your progression and minimise the cost. An example of one of these is the PwC Flying Start programme; see more details at by clicking [HERE](#)

You can look at other large accountancy firms, for example, Ernst Young, Deloitte, Mazars etc. – all of whom offer programmes aimed at either giving an alternative route to a degree, or reducing the costs of the degree you study.

PwC Work Experience Programmes for 2018

Do you have an interest in business and finance or technology? PwC have two exciting programmes for you to find out more about the business and discover where your interests lie.

Spend an action-packed week in a PwC office during your summer holiday – meeting the staff, experiencing the work they do and making new friends.

PwC support many household brands, governments, charities and global companies with everything from planning for the future, to how they can make best use of their technology and meet the challenges of a changing world of business. Plus, you'll get advice and coaching from their recruitment team. If it goes well, you'll have the opportunity to: secure a full-time job when you leave college; explore their Flying Start degree programme; or join one of their undergraduate work experience programmes if you decide university is for you.

PwC are launching their work experience programmes for 2018

Students will need to be:

- In year 12
- Expected to achieve a minimum of a 96 UCAS tariff at A Level.

- We'll be looking for students to demonstrate a genuine interest in PwC and the world of business (Business Insight Week) and technology (Big Data Summer Camp)

Students can apply from **Monday 20 November 2017** and vacancies will close on **Sunday 28 January 2018.**

To take advantage of this great opportunity, and to see what other opportunities are available to you please click [HERE](#)

Sutton Trust US Programme – Study in the US

What is it?

The Sutton Trust US Programme is an 18 month-long programme for talented Year 12 students from across the UK. It includes two residentials in London to help participants explore US study, before all 150 students spend a week doing the programme's summer school at US universities (last year they stayed at MIT or Yale), during which time they visited a number of other universities in the US. As the students go into Year 13, if they want to apply for US universities alongside their UCAS options, the Sutton Trust will support them, their families and their colleges with the application process, including further UK residentials.

So far in five years, the Sutton trust have helped more than 250 British students go to top US universities with scholarships from the universities.

How much does it cost for the students?

The programme is free for students – including travel, food, accommodation, admissions test preparation and more.

Who are we looking for?

The Sutton trust select 150 students to take part each year.

These students will:

- Currently be in Year 12 at a state school or college
- Not hold US citizenship
- Be from a low income family (generally, this will mean a household earning £45,000 or less)

The Sutton trust are looking for applicants that meet **all** or **most** of these criteria:

- Have achieved at least eight GCSEs at grade A or 7
- Show a commitment to the programme and interest in US culture and higher education
- Have a strong college reference
- Individuals from a broad range of ethnic, religious and socio-economic backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Students must submit their application by **Sunday 14 January 2018**. See <https://us.suttontrust.com> for more information and the application form.

FREE access programme for Y12 students at the University of Oxford

UNIQ was previously a standalone summer school but has been expanded to include a Spring Conference and a digital learning portal enabling up to 2000 students to take part.

The programmes are academically intensive and challenging but also a lot of fun. Importantly, every programme run by UNIQ is completely free of charge; the University covers all accommodation, food and travel expenses and any associated academic or social activity costs. A great many previous participants have gone on to make successful applications to Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities.

UNIQ is open to applications from UK state college students in their first year of further education. Detailed eligibility and selection criteria can be found [HERE](#).

By taking part, UNIQ participants:

- Receive current advice on all aspects of Oxford admissions
- Gain confidence in their own abilities
- Are better equipped to submit strong applications to competitive universities

An electronic copy of the brochure is available online [here](#).

Applications open at 10:00 on Thursday 14 December and close at 11pm on Wednesday 31 January.

If you would like further information, please visit their website www.uniq.ox.ac.uk or contact uniq@admin.ox.ac.uk.

Summer Schools

There are numerous benefits to taking part in Summer Schools. They are usually **free** and include your meals, accommodation, some will cover travel costs. You will also be able to find out what University is really like!

You can develop your critical thinking and independent study skills, and you will be introduced to new subject areas which will all help to support your progression to higher education.

You'll have the opportunity to ask current students about their university experiences, and talk to academics about their subjects and research.

You will gain an insight to university life, and there are numerous academic benefits to taking part in a summer school, for example:

- find out about courses and how they are taught
- learn how to carry out university-level research
- experience a university lecture, delivered by an academic in a lecture theatre
- use facilities including, labs, teaching areas, sports facilities, library and specialist arts facilities

To view all the up to date Summer School opportunities see the Widening Participation section of the BHASVIC Website. You will be able to do this in the New Year by clicking [HERE](#)

Useful Links

Career Sectors - <https://targetjobs.co.uk/>

Conferences for students interested in Law or Medicine (not free of charge) - <http://www.epoc.org.uk/>

The government site for apprenticeships - <https://www.getingofar.gov.uk/>

School Leaver opportunities and Apprenticeships (Finance/Consulting/Law)

Ernst Young

EY are offering apprenticeships in Tax, Assurance, Transactions & Consulting - get the qualifications you'd normally gain after finishing uni on a salary up to £21.5K. Or choose EY's degree apprenticeship which includes a paid-for BSc in Digital Innovation.

In Year 12 and not sure? - Try the Business Academy Work Experience scheme next summer.

View Apprenticeships & WEX (<https://successatschool.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2c038531b25876a2c7c9cf8b1&id=5ca4802dcc&e=46deda59fc>)

National Audit Office (NAO)

Study to become a chartered accountant straight from college with NAO's school/college leaver programme. NAO inspects public spending of government departments, agencies and public bodies, so a career at NAO is an opportunity to make a difference to our society. Available in London and Newcastle.

View Opportunities (<https://successatschool.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2c038531b25876a2c7c9cf8b1&id=9f07ec8348&e=46deda59fc>)

Berwin Leighton Paisner

Opportunities for students to gain experience in the legal sector.

<https://successatschool.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2c038531b25876a2c7c9cf8b1&id=c1c3b4909a&e=46deda59fc>

General Information

If a student is successful in applying to any activity they must check with their teachers that it is ok for them to attend, (this only applies if the event is in College time and will result in them missing College to attend). Once they have

done this, they must send a copy of the confirmation email from the university provider to outofcollege@bhasvic.ac.uk.

We have sent this newsletter to the parents/carers of all students who are eligible for at least one of the WP schemes that we work with. To check your eligibility students can speak to Lynne or Susie in Student Services, or email studentservices@bhasvic.ac.uk and enquire.

In order to take advantage of the opportunities and the events on offer, please ensure that you have registered for Widening Participation at BHASVIC before the **end of January 2018** - applications received after this time cannot be processed.

Forms and online links were sent out during October and November. The application process for University of Brighton is online, via the following link <http://blogs.brighton.ac.uk/wideningparticipation/application-form/> and you can follow this link for the University of Sussex <https://goo.gl/forms/56zRjUXO3bJuPFNI3>

You can follow us on [B H A S V I C - Student Services](#) or twitter [@BHASVICStudentServs](#) to ensure that you have information regarding any other events being offered by our team.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year from the BHASVIC WP Team