



BHASVIC



Study Support – Student Services – University Applications

Work Experience – Apprenticeships and Employment – Peer Support

Supporting You

Everyone needs help sometimes, don't be afraid to ask! There are different ways we can help you depending on your situation. Support is provided to all students via Personal Tutors. Your Personal Tutor will provide help and guidance to make sure you gain the most from the opportunities available to you at the College and also from external organisations. Details of how you can access other types of support available to you at the College are listed in this leaflet.



Study Support

Our aim is to help you to learn skills and strategies to help you manage your own difficulties with confidence so that you are prepared for lifelong learning. So we can help you to make the most of your time at the College we need to know if you have a specific learning difficulty (for example dyslexia), a sensory impairment, mobility issues or anything else which affects your learning. If you have not let us know your needs at application or enrolment stage in September please inform us where possible well in advance of your exams to help us make appropriate arrangements for your individual needs - please let us know via Study Support (if you are already a BHASVIC student) or via Admissions if you have not yet enrolled at the College.

We can offer the following types of support depending on needs:

- Assessment for dyslexia/access arrangements in exams
- Structured Study Support to help with specific learning difficulties
- Support to address literacy and numeracy needs
- Liaison with subject teachers with regard to Special Educational Needs strategies for individual students
- Study Support incorporates the ESOL provision, for students whose first language is not English
- Assistive technology
- Physical access support
- Quiet study

Requests for Access Arrangements in exams – including separate invigilation and the use of a Word Processor – must be made well in advance of the exams so as to allow for the College to accommodate these requests. **Requests made after 19 February 2016 cannot be guaranteed.** Please come and talk to Colette McElroy, Head of Study Support.

You can be referred for Study Support in the following ways:

- Telling us about your needs on the application form at your interview or via a disclosure form
- Notification from previous school (you should check we have received this at interview)
- By providing the information at enrolment interview
- Self-referral by coming directly to Study Support
- By referral from a teacher or tutor
- By referral from a parent
- By the screening test that all new students undertake

We need early notification of additional needs which require a high level of support, if we are to plan your provision effectively from the start of your programme.

Drop-in support is be available in our Copper Building Study Support Area.



Equality and Diversity

BHASVIC's aim is to treat everyone with respect and consideration, welcoming students regardless of gender, learning difficulty and/or disability, ethnic or national origin, race, religion or belief, age, socio-economic status, marital or family status, sexual orientation, politics and trade union membership. Any questions you may have can be discussed with either the Equality and Diversity Manager or the Admissions Manager via 01273 859810 or admissions@bhasvic.ac.uk

Accessibility

We are focused on making our College buildings, learning materials including websites and applications accessible to all our students and visitors. We have an ongoing programme of making improvements. We are always happy to receive your views - you can access our feedback form via <http://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/contact/feedback.aspx>

Higher Education and Careers

Our Student Services Centre has lots of information and advice for you about Careers and Higher Education choices. Higher Education and Gap Year events also help you to gain the skills and knowledge you need to make a success of your future.

Our Work Experience co-ordinator in the Student Services Centre can help arrange placements for you to boost your CV and personal statement for your UCAS application to university. If you are applying for Oxbridge, medical and veterinary degrees or requiring interview practice there is help available via our Specialist Tutor groups.

Peer Support

If you are a first year student who would like help, advice or encouragement from one of our Peer Supporters (who are second year students) please let Student Services or your Tutor know. We also have professional counselling services available to support students.



Photo courtesy of Photography student Max Weiss

Library

Our Library is a quiet study area for research and, staffed by professional librarians. Staff are available to help you with your research needs. We have a wireless network available for you to bring your own devices throughout the Library and other College social spaces. Photocopying facilities, both black and white and colour are available as are open access networked PCs with free internet access, colour printers and a scanner. The Library is open at various times during the holiday periods.

Sport

We run a fully inclusive sports activity programme to help keep all students fit and healthy during their studies as well as our competitive sport timetable. This is a great way to socialise and meet new people with lunchtime activities including: Table Tennis, Zumba, Dance, 5-a-side football.



Other Enrichment Activities

We try to respond to your interests and develop new opportunities so our enrichment programme varies from year to year. Some examples of recent groups or activities are: LGBT group, Christian Union, Duke of Edinburgh scheme. Many subjects have trips and visiting speakers which support our education for life philosophy.

Student Voice - The College Council

Our Student Council acts as the student voice for every one of our students. The Student Council is made up of representatives from each tutor group and meets twice a term. It is an open forum where representatives can voice concerns expressed by members of their tutor group and put forward new ideas. It is also an occasion to let your Student Union and members of the College's Senior Management Team know your views on how well they are doing and what you want them to do for you. Each department at the College operates a Curriculum Student Voice feedback system to provide feedback to staff about student views on teaching and learning in the classroom.

Student Union

We see ourselves as an advice centre for students on all sorts of matters and we can and do act as a pressure group to get things changed. BHASVIC Student Union is affiliated to the National Union of Students, which means that you will receive a nationally recognised student card, giving discounts in shops and other places. Union officers are elected to serve from April for a year. One of our jobs is to organise regular social events. These also provide funds for us to improve facilities for you. Our charities programme doesn't just raise money for local and international causes; it usually involves some fun events during a charities week.

Financial Support

If you are facing genuine financial barriers to learning you may be eligible for financial support if you meet the following criteria: under 19 years of age on 31 August plus meet any of the categories below:

Vulnerable Learners as defined by EFA as Children in Care, Care Leavers, Carers, Living independently and receiving Income Support or Universal Credit, Disabled young people in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments. Discretionary Support is for students whose family income is less than £21,000 per annum.

Further information can be obtained from the Welfare Co-ordinator in Student Services - a "drop-in service" operates so you do not need an appointment.

Contact information

Denise Mansfield, Admissions/Schools Liaison Manager,
Tel: 01273 859810
Email: admissions@bhasvic.ac.uk

If you would like more information about the support available for students with a disability, including those with study support needs please contact:

Colette McElroy, Head of Study Support,
Email: c.mcelroy@bhasvic.ac.uk

Alternative versions of this leaflet are available via the college website at: www.bhasvic.ac.uk/students/study-support.aspx

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