



30 September 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

BHASVIC A2 Careers, HE and Progression Advice

Although still only half way through their college experience, this term is a busy one for our A2 students who are now beginning to apply for their next steps, following their time at college. The different second year tutorial pathways support students in this application process and there is more information on the second year programme, including tutorial pathways and portfolio options, on the [A1-A2 Transfer page](#).

We ran **Specialist Application and UCAS webinars** during the summer term for all the A2 tutorial pathways, and recordings can be viewed on our [Careers and Employability](#) page by scrolling down to "*BHASVIC Progression Information Events April/May.*"

A2 UCAS Tutorial. About 70% of our students apply to University and we offer a huge amount of support at BHASVIC to help them on their journey. The first point of contact will be a student's Personal Tutor, who will be managing the completion of the reference, providing feedback on their personal statement, and supporting them in completing their UCAS Apply forms. Personal Tutors are there to give guidance and support, passing on more complex queries to our UCAS, Early Application leads and our careers team. Personal Tutors follows this schedule in tutorial:

- Week 1 (completed) An Introduction to the UCAS process and UCAS Apply
- Week 2 (completed) Personal Statements – Introduction and Structure
- Week 3 w/c 27/09/21 Personal Statements – Transferable Skills
- Week 4 w/c 04/10/21 Personal Statements – Final drafting and Editing

The spring term will then see us focus on student finance and independent living, including budgeting and accommodation. More information can be found on the [Higher Education](#) page and in our [Parents and Carers Guide to HE](#).

UCAS Team page Students also have access to a wealth of resources on the UCAS Team page including:

- All tutor resources and activities including an audio pre-record (approx 15-20 minutes each).
- Subject Guides for all subjects with uni course advice and guidance, example degrees, links, advice for writing a Personal Statement for specific subjects.
- [A Guide to Super-curricular activities](#). This will support students in their Personal Statements with suggestions of 'added extras' (e.g. podcasts/journals to supplement learning in class).
- Example Personal Statements written by ex-students.
- My Future Plans resources.

Open Days

Many universities are holding onsite open days this autumn. There is nothing that can replace visiting a campus you are considering spending three years studying in, although virtual tours will also be available. Useful links are [open days](#) and [unitasterdays.com](#), and some will offer travel refunds for prospective students, so please do check.

Internal Deadlines for all guaranteed UCAS applications.

We would encourage students to apply in good time, last year we processed almost 1450 applications from current and ex-students. Mid-October for the January deadline is recommended and many students processing applications will have a quick response from UCAS and potentially the universities they are applying to. Students can apply to one or two choices early and add any more choices until the 26 January 2021 deadline. Our General Office team ask for 10 working days to process applications, particularly through our busiest periods and we are closed throughout the Christmas break.

- 25/09 BHASVIC Internal Early Application deadline for Oxbridge and Medics
- 13/11 BHASVIC Internal Priority Application deadline
- 11/12 BHASVIC Internal Standard deadline for guaranteed processing before the national UCAS deadline

We recommend you look carefully at course entry requirements, modules of study, and visit, if possible. Be open minded and look at the wide degree of courses available, [the uniguide](#) is a good starting point. Once UCAS have received the apply form, choices can only be changed for seven days after the welcome letter. For further information please revisit the [Parents and Carers Guide to Higher Education 2021](#). We are always very welcoming to parent/carer enquiries, so please do not hesitate to email he@bhasvic.ac.uk and we can arrange a time to speak further. Our qualified careers advisors are also happy to respond to queries, and can be contacted using careers@bhasvic.ac.uk.

#BeANeuroNinja – Wellbeing As we did last year, we are planning to run regular webinars with our wellbeing partner Andrew Wright ([Action Your Potential](#)) who uses neuroscience to support wellbeing, keep motivated and promote positive study habits. The webinars are fun, informative, engaging and will challenge students to think differently. They will also offer practical advice on how to improve overall wellbeing day to day. The webinar will offer activities to build the skills of a #NeuroNinja, someone who understands how their brain works, so they can get the best out of it. This half term's webinars are listed below, starting at 8pm and running for 30 mins. Each webinar contains actionable strategies to support every parent, carer, and young person.

Wellbeing

Wed 6 Oct 8pm: Building Great Sleep

Thu 7 Oct 8pm: SEND Focus: Finding Balance in the ASD Brain

Mind Management

Wed 13 Oct 8pm: Understanding & Responding to Anxiety (1)

Thu 14 Oct 8pm: Understanding & Responding to Anxiety (2)

Unleashing Learning and Productivity

Wed 20 Oct 8pm: Beat Procrastination: How Do I Get Stuff Done?

Thu 21 Oct 8pm: SEND Focus: Unleashing The Dyslexic Brain

To sign up to the series – [CLICK HERE](#) Action Your Potential take your privacy very seriously and will only use this data to let you know about these webinars, their GDPR [policy is here](#).

Welfare and Counselling

Our Student Services Centre contains a wealth of information on welfare and wider student support. In common with the national picture, we are currently experiencing high demand for onsite face-to-face counselling and welfare appointments, at the moment there is some availability with online appointments, however, these are also filling up. For urgent referrals, we always recommend that you book an appointment with your GP, but there is also wider support at college and full details can be found under the [Counselling and Emotional Health and Wellbeing](#) sections of our website or on the [Welfare page of the VLE](#).

Our Freshers & Enrichment Fair was held on Wednesday 29 September and we had a fantastic turnout. Led by the Student Union and our Student Support and Experience teams, it was a great opportunity for new and returning students to chat with local organisations, find out about support services in and outside college and to sign up for exciting college enrichment activities and societies. There will be more information (and pictures) in the Autumn Term newsletter, but to view more details of current enrichment activities, visit [BHASVIC Enrichment](#).

Greenpower Racing - can you help?

BHASVIC Physics will be relaunching the popular Greenpower electric car project this week. The project has been running for 4 years and students have been able to build and race two electric cars at national motor racing circuits, including Goodwood and Silverstone. The project aims to develop engineering skills and teamwork and several students have gone on to study engineering as a result. We are looking for help with transportation of the cars on race days and we would welcome sponsorship to help fund essential components such as motors and batteries. If you can help in any way, please email p.golton@bhasvic.ac.uk

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Citizens Assembly – Thursday 14th October 6:30-8:30

BHASVIC is part of Citizens Brighton and Hove. Last year the alliance held a listening campaign on mental health provision and we will be providing our findings at a 'Citizens Assembly' with students from across the city presenting their 'asks' for improvements to services directly to the City MPs, Councillors and NHS commissioners. This is a blended event - attendance in person is limited to those involved in speaking/presenting from various schools, colleges and Sussex Uni. But we need as many people as we can to 'attend' by watching it online. The more people who attend, the more traction we will have with the authorities to improve services. If interested, please can you put the date in your diary and sign up to attend [here](#).

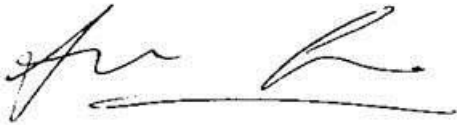
ID cards and Site Security

All students should now have been issued with their ID card and students are required to carry it with them at all times whilst onsite. This is in order to protect all members of the community. All staff and volunteers also wear ID cards and visitors must sign in at Main Reception. If students become aware of anyone without valid ID, they should report this to a member of staff immediately.

Data Protection – Privacy Notices

Later this week we will be sending out our Data Protection Privacy notices to all students. Please look out for this email as it is important and please ensure you/your young person completes the form and acknowledges they have read the information.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Cousens', with a horizontal line underneath.

Alison Cousens
Assistant Principal (Student Services)