



Useful Links:

www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard
[www.twitter.com/studentsservs](https://twitter.com/studentsservs)
www.facebook.com/studentsservicesbhasvic
[www.twitter.com/Well_at_BHAS](https://twitter.com/Well_at_BHAS)

[www.twitter.com/BHASVIC_Alumni](https://twitter.com/BHASVIC_Alumni)
[www.twitter.com/BHASVICparents](https://twitter.com/BHASVICparents)
www.facebook.com/bhasvicalumni1/
[www.twitter.com/BHASVICLibrary](https://twitter.com/BHASVICLibrary)



WELCOME FROM WILL BALDWIN

As I write this, exam season is in full swing and students are sitting exams all over the College. I do feel for them at this time of year – especially if the weather is great – they have to make decisions around how, when, what and if to revise. I often say to students that they should be really pleased with their grade outcomes (whatever they may be) if they can look themselves in the mirror and say ‘I couldn’t have reasonably worked harder’. In the tutorial programme when we cover revision strategies we look at the importance of rest and how fallow time is essential to the learning process. Getting the balance right between doing enough and not doing enough is really tricky! Again, I often say that exams outcomes reflect more than what students know in a subject – they reflect maturity and the ability to manage time, priorities and competing demands. I hope that the exam season has gone well and that the wait for results is not too tortuous. I also hope that the outcomes in your household can be celebrated. For our first year students, progression exam outcomes will reflect their progress over the year and what we might expect next year, for second year students the end of exams means the end of their time at BHASVIC. This also means the end of your time as a BHASVIC parent (unless there are younger children in the wings). Supporting young people at this stage in their life can be a rollercoaster – I hope that at some point your young person recognises the positive input you have had during this period and thanks you for it one day.

I wish them the very best of luck in whatever pathway they choose next.

PARENT SURVEY

We welcome feedback from parents and carers- it would be really helpful if you could take a few moments to complete the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XJ2K375>

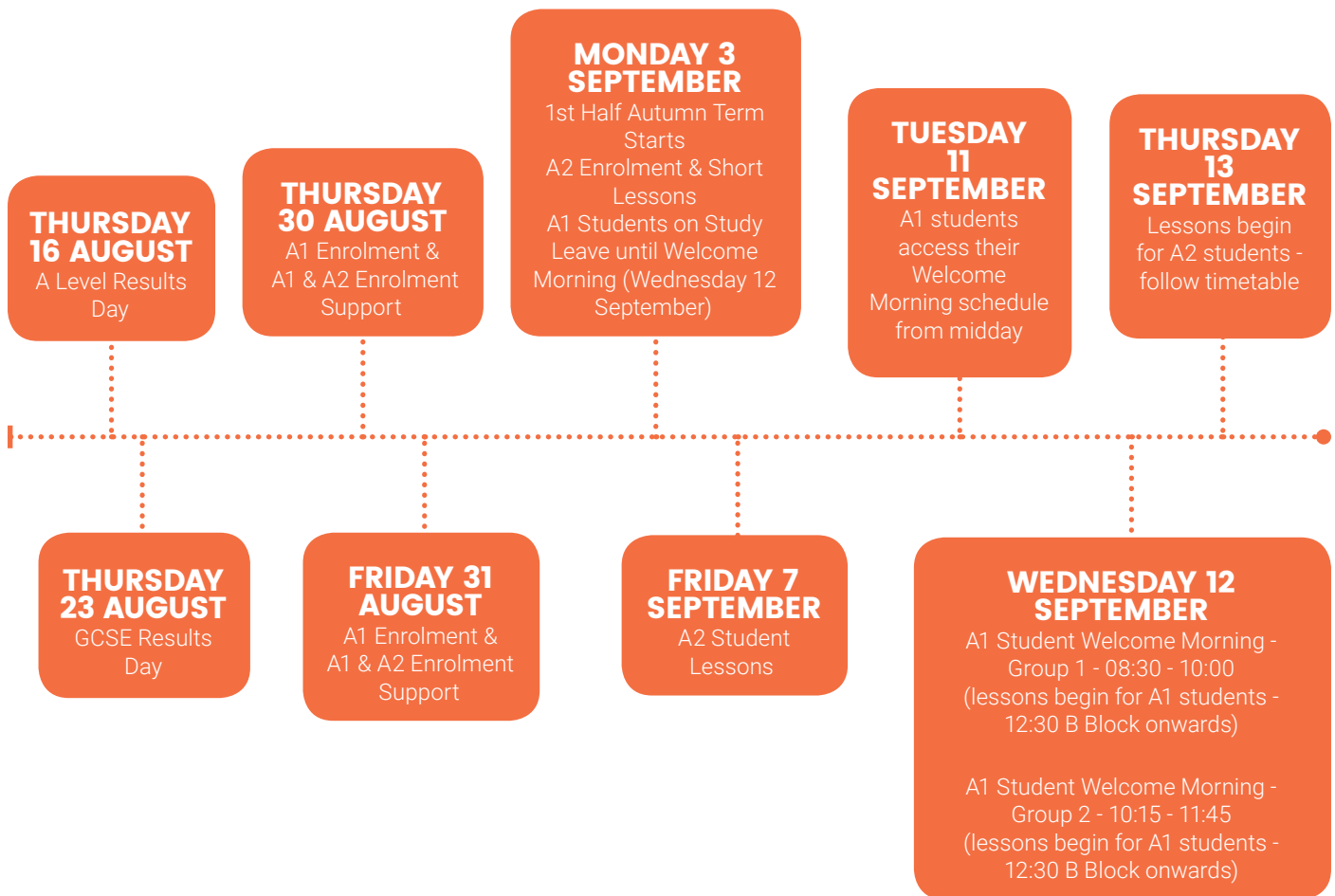
PARENT ADVANTAGE

Please log on to follow your young person’s progress and journey through BHASVIC.

Instructions on how to log on to Parent Advantage can found here:

<https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard>

KEY DATES



Autumn Term dates can be found here:

<https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard/events-and-communications>



The College calendar is here:

<https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/calendar>

EXAM INFORMATION

Information regarding Exams can be found on the Parents/Carers website here:

<https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard/events-and-communications>

WORK EXPERIENCE

BHASVIC typically offer the opportunity for A1 students to go on a work experience placement in the last week of the summer term.

This year we have students attending a variety of local organisations including:

- Barclays
- Lloyds
- Brighton and Hove County Legal Services
- Laing O'Rourke (digital engineering)
- The Student Room (admin/tech/marketing)
- Hemsley Orrell Partnership (engineering)
- Brighton Museum and Shelter (charity sector)

We aim to encourage all our students to participate in some form of work-based learning during their time here at College, for both personal and academic enrichment.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

STRESS, ARE WE COPING? MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK 14 – 30 MAY 2018

This year's MHAW theme was Stress. A representative from MH charity Mind visited the college to talk to students about exams and coping with stress. Students tested their stress levels by applying a BIODOT to their wrists and comparing the colour of the BIODOT to the colours on the colour

interpretation chart. When we're stressed or anxious, blood diverts away from the surface of the skin towards our muscles and vital organs, cooling the skin temperature.

Students also picked up copies of our resource: Exams and Revision, Stress and Relaxation, to support their study skills and their wellbeing through the often difficult exam period.



COUNSELLING SERVICE

The BHASVIC Counselling service like all the local mental health services has again this year received a large volume of referrals. So far this year we have had 160 referrals - of those, 55 students have already received regular counselling.

Since the start of the year BHASVIC has been offering students who may be experiencing anxiety, low mood, lack of motivation, stress or experiencing thoughts which cause anxiety/low mood the opportunity to attend a Wellbeing Workshop.

If your young person is interested in taking part in the Workshops or you have any questions about them, please contact studentservices@bhasvic.ac.uk

Students have regularly fed back the need for some tools and strategies around anxiety and low mood in particular, the Workshops are a response to that need.

Each round of Workshops is run over three weeks and lasts for an hour and a half. The Workshops are open to all students with the aim of enabling students to feel they have gained some understanding about how our emotions work and some strategies to deal with this.

During the sessions they will be able to:

- practice techniques to “defuse” uncomfortable thoughts and feelings
- explore popular myths around happiness
- explore the relationship between thoughts, feelings and the experience of sensations as we feel them in our bodies
- practice mindfulness techniques to connect to the present moment
- consider individual values and goals and look at some techniques to help you plan and build towards meaningful change.





MOCK INTERVIEWS

Enterprise & Employability tutorial students were offered the chance to attend a mock interview (employers included American Express and Laing O'Rourke) in order to ensure that they were fully prepared for the future process. The feedback from both students and employers was extremely positive. This opportunity provided students with a safe environment in which to improve their employability skills.

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

This was a new addition to the **BHASVIC Careers Team calendar** but will now be a regular slot. Local employers, apprenticeship providers and universities visited the College to deliver talks on the theme of '**Employability Skills**'. The intention of this event was to raise student understanding of what skills and qualities are needed in the workplace.

This event was an opportunity to engage with the local community and to showcase the work being conducted at BHASVIC.

The feedback from the week was very positive and it was the only major event offered in the city. We hope that the students felt that it was beneficial and can use it as a starting point for their career planning.

PREDICTED GRADES

Your young person will have received their predicted grades via Advantage at the beginning of July. These should enable them to research appropriate university courses if they wish to continue onto higher education. These come from progression exam results and also coursework through the year. We pride ourselves on realistic grades from students which universities tell us are key to successful applications. There is a huge range of university choices out there in what is a student market due to lower figures of 18 year olds alongside uncapped numbers of university places. Please encourage your young person to ask their tutor for advice if needed.

UCAS REFERENCES

At the end of the academic year in July you will receive a copy of your young person's UCAS references. These are references for their subjects we keep on file for future jobs, bursaries and also university applications in the Autumn term. They are supplemented by tutor comments regarding their study programme, extra-curricular activities and future plans. They are always very positive from teaching staff. Please remember that your young person still needs to attend regularly and work hard to achieve their grades.

TUTORIALS

The A1 tutorial programme this term focuses on **"Progression" beyond BHASVIC**, building on the information obtained during Progression Day on 14 June. Students interested in applying to Oxford or Cambridge Universities, or interested in making early applications for degrees related to medical careers, have already joined new tutor groups with the aim of preparing for deadlines in October.

Students who are interested in **Employability and Enterprise** or **Visual Arts** progression routes will join these new tutor groups in September.

Other students are learning more about higher education and the process of applying to university through UCAS.

Next term will see a change in the way we organise tutorials. Group tutorials will be 45 minutes long, leaving 15 minutes for tutors to arrange to see students one-to-one. This responds to student requests to give greater priority to individual support, at the same time as providing more focused group tutorials. The Student Services Centre will be reconfigured to accommodate these changes, with new IT to facilitate tutorial activities and greater student engagement.

STUDENT SERVICES RECONFIGURATION

The Student Services building is being revamped and redecorated over the summer holidays in order to make it a more welcoming and comfortable space for staff and students alike. We aim to bring it into the 21st century in terms of décor and reconfigure some of the spaces downstairs and towards the back of the building. This will increase the size of the Reception area and generate more small office spaces, enabling tutors to have more focused

one-to-one time with their tutees in the course of the year: something which has come through as a strong request in Student Voice surveys. At the rear of the building we aim to make the most of the green spaces and develop a wellbeing garden, as well as light and airy social areas – all of which should help promote the positive emotional health and wellbeing of everyone.



DESTINATION DATA

Every year we compile a destination data report for the previous year's cohort. This comes from UCAS (University Admissions), HESA (University degree classification) and internal data. We continue to succeed well over the national average for the sector.

SOME HEADLINE FIGURES FROM OUR 1002 UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS LAST YEAR:



- We have seen a significant increase in the number of students applying to HE to 64-75% of the A2 cohort in recent years. Around 25% will take a gap year and apply later.



- 51% of BHASVIC students accepted a place at a higher tariff university (including Oxbridge/Russell Group) substantially higher than the national average of 20%.



- Most popular subject areas for university are Maths, Psychology, English Studies, Law, and Politics with increased interest in Sociology, Computer Science, Media and combination courses. Of note also is an increase in Nursing applications against the national trend.



- Most popular HE providers with BHASVIC students are Sussex, Bristol, Bristol (UWE) and Leeds with increasing popularity of Kent, Birmingham, Portsmouth and Surrey.



- Oxbridge – our most successful year with 57 offers – making us the highest non-selective state provider to Cambridge with our Oxford offers increasing year on year.



- Internal data shows our low income students with bursaries and on the deprivation index are more likely to enter HE in the first year compared to our wider cohort, although less likely to take a gap year. They are equally as likely to enter HE as our general cohort.



- Our Art Foundation applications remain steady – around 70 per year.



- A year on year increase with Medics, Veterinary and Dentistry offers from 17 in 2015 to 22 in 2017 with an offer rate of around 1:2 compared to 1:10 nationally.



- In addition, our ex-students gaining First and 2:1 degrees continue to be around 10% higher than that of the rest of the sector, including Independent schools.

ALUMNI REMINDER

During the week 7-11 May we tried to get all our 1132 Leavers (2018) to sign up to our new **Future First Alumni** database so they can benefit from the Network in the future. Once they had registered, they received two mementos to remind them of their BHASVIC years – a funky bottle opener/key ring and a pen, both with the Alumni logo inscribed.

Joining the **#Alumni Network** will enable students to keep in touch with their peers and for BHASVIC to keep in touch with them.

If you or your children are ex-students, please sign up on:

Current students (Leavers 2018):

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/student/bhasvic>

Former students:

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/bhasvic>



PAST EVENTS

HIGHER EDUCATION SPECIALIST APPLICATION EVENING PRESENTATIONS – TUESDAY 8TH MAY

For those of you that attended this event, we hope you found it useful and informative.

Links to presentations from the various talks can be found on the Parents'/Carers' section here <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard/events-and-communications> under the **Specialist Application Evening** presentations heading.

PROGRESSION DAY – THURSDAY 14TH JUNE

All A1 students participated in a variety of activities across the city, depending on which tutorial pathway they chose for next year.

Details can be found on the VLE and the Parents'/Carers' website:

<https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/parents-carers-dashboard> under the Summer Term section.

LEAVERS EVENT – THURSDAY 28TH JUNE

All A2 students (and any A1 students that are leaving college at the end of their first year) were expected to attend college on this day.

The purpose of the event is to:

- Give students and staff the opportunity to say goodbye
- Ensure students return all books and resources loaned to them by the College
- Refund students the £50 deposit paid at the start of their studies at BHASVIC (dependent on all books and resources being returned and any outstanding charges having been paid)

The Student Union hosted a BBQ with live music in the Piazza.

EVENTS COMING UP...

New Parents Evenings – 12th July and 16th July

These events are for parents and carers of new students joining us in September.

During the evening there will be short presentations from our Principal, our Assistant Principal (Direct of Student Services) and our Head of Study Support. There will also be an opportunity to speak to support staff in the following areas:

- Admissions
- Careers and Widening Participation
- Student Finance
- Student Welfare
- Personal Tutoring and Guidance
- Progression to Higher Education

STUDENT UNION UPDATE

With over 800 votes cast, the Student Union body of 2018/19 were selected. They have already undertaken a training day, bonding over painting pots and begun coming up with ideas to raise more money for charity and improve the student experience at BHASVIC. They hosted their first SU event: The S7 Consortium of Sixth Form Colleges Away Day was attended by their Student Union executives as well as the A2 Leavers Event on 28th June where they organised a BBQ, live music and a Photo booth. They also sold Krispy Kreme donuts to raise money for their three chosen charities.



BHASVIC Celebration of Students' Work

Creative Arts Festival 2018

Visual Arts Exhibition

22 - 25 - 26 June

Top Floor Main building - 9am to 3:30pm

The annual exhibition of student work which includes photography, textiles, fine art and graphic design.

BHASVICTORS

25 June

Duke of York's Picturehouse - 6:30pm

Our annual red-carpet awards ceremony celebrating and screening the best work from the Media & Performing Arts department.

Tickets are free and available from Catherine Abbott in room 126a College House.

The BEARDS

27 June

The Main Hall - 6:30pm

A celebration of the best of students' written work from the various English courses.

InMotion

5 July

Main Hall - 7:30pm

An evening of contemporary dance.

Tickets £5 (£3 concessions) from the Cash Desk.

Café Culture

10 July

The Piazza - 6pm

Music to chill to on a warm summer's evening.

Tickets £5 (£3 concessions) from the Cash Desk.

CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

JUNE 12 - JULY 10

CAF



CAREERS ENRICHMENT

CAREERS ENRICHMENT DAY: FRIDAY 6 JULY

BHASVIC wants to help all our students with their next steps after college and further into their future lives.

Each year we have a **Careers Enrichment Day** during which students can explore a variety of career options, meet a wide range of expert professionals, visit local organisations or increase their employability by developing skills needed to get jobs, writing personal statements or preparing a good application for university, further study or employment.

This year we had about 50 activities on offer including Astrophysics, Marketing, Marine Biology, NHS Nursing, Engineering, a variety of Performing and Visual Arts options, a trip round Shoreham Port, Sports-based careers and a mock Interview Assessment Centre.

Students chose to do one option from the many available. Some activities last all day whilst others are shorter in duration. Some activities are in college but several are offsite.

There were no lessons on this day but students are expected to be involved as part of their commitment to BHASVIC.



Further Information and Useful Links:

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