



14 December 2022

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Ofsted Inspection

Many thanks to all students, parents and carers who contributed to our Ofsted inspection last week. We are not able to formally share any grades until the report is published, but I can say that we are extremely pleased with the provisional feedback we have received and look forward to sharing the report in the New Year. The Lead Inspector did let us know that we received very high numbers of student and parent/carer responses to the Ofsted surveys, including in excess of 800 written comments from students. We are incredibly grateful to all those who responded to the survey, which helped ensure that all experiences and perspectives informed the inspectors' evaluation and report.

Train Strikes

We are monitoring the impact of the Train Strikes on attendance. BHASVIC Provision is fundamentally an in-person, onsite offer and any other model of delivery (for example, attending lessons remotely) leads to a significant reduction in quality of experience and learning, not only for practical courses, but theory-based subjects as well. We ask, therefore, for students to make every effort to find a way to get into college. We will continue to monitor the levels of disruption caused by strikes and evaluate whether we will ultimately need to move to a blended model (where that is possible) for the minority of students who have no other option but to miss college.

Contact during the Christmas Holidays

Please note that Reception will be closed from 11am on Friday 16 December to 8am on Tuesday 3 January 2023 inclusive. College re-opens on Tuesday 3 January.

Out of Hours - Wellbeing Support

Our Student Support team do not work outside term time, but if you have a concern regarding a student's emotional health and wellbeing during this time, you are invited to contact the Schools Wellbeing Service to speak to a Primary Mental Health worker. Please e-mail SWSConsultationLine@brighton-hove.gov.uk or call 01273 293481. For further information on different services available, please visit <https://e-wellbeing.co.uk/>

Keeping Safe over Christmas

Students are reminded to check out the 'Staying safe at Xmas' tutorial quiz on their tutor team which contains lots of tips and advice, particularly if they are planning a night out partying! There is a [safe space drop-in](#) at St Paul's Church on West Street on Friday and Saturdays (11pm-3.30am). Brighton & Hove City Council also has a page dedicated to [cost of living support](#) and for more general advice on a range of safety, health and wellbeing topics, please look at the [BHASVLE Welfare page](#) or [A-Z of Young People's Support Services](#)

Start of Term Arrangements

We look forward to seeing students back onsite for the Spring Term on Tuesday 3 January. Our A1 students begin their Progression Plans activity work in tutorial and A2 students will begin work on 'Life Skills' including professionalism and financial literacy.

Summer 2023 Exams Arrangements

Ofqual, the exams regulator, has written an [open letter to students](#), and an [open letter to schools and colleges](#) about next summer's exams. The most pertinent point to pass on is that Ofqual, the DfE and Exam Boards recognise that the 2023 cohort still deserves some protection against the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The details of what will be put in place can be found in the letters, and we will be communicating these details to students at a course-by-course level, through our teachers, so that students fully understand. This paragraph illustrates for all stakeholders what the intention and its general impact would be: *"Broadly speaking this means that a typical student who would have achieved, for example, an A grade in A level geography before the pandemic will be just as likely to get an A next summer, even if their performance in the assessments is a little weaker in 2023 than it would have been before the pandemic."*

Wellbeing Workshops in the New Year

#NeuroNinja Procrastination and Motivation Workshops for Students from [Action Your Potential](#) (AYP). These innovative workshops from AYP will teach you how to deploy willpower, built through daily practice. Taking place in college on Monday 16 and Friday 20 January, 2pm-3pm and 3pm-4pm; full details have been shared in tutorial. E-mail events@bhasvic.ac.uk to book a place, and don't forget that 1:1 coaching sessions have been established and are ongoing with Action Your Potential. Students should e-mail wellbeing@bhasvic.ac.uk or speak to their Personal Tutor if they think they would benefit from this support.

A1 Parents Evenings – 12 & 18 January

A reminder that parents' evenings will be on Thursday 12 and Wednesday 18 January; full details have been sent via e-mail from our Events Team and booking opens on Wednesday 4 January.

A1 Skills Week – preparation for work experience/volunteering placement needed now!

BHASVIC Skills Week runs from Monday 3 July – Friday 7 July for all first years. It is a new part of the college [calendar](#) and students will be expected to complete a work experience or volunteering placement (unless they are on a college residential trip). The work/volunteering placement can be in-person or remote/online.

We have asked students to make enquiries about placements by contacting as wide a range of people, organisations and employers as possible, and the Christmas break is an ideal time to follow-up possible opportunities with family members, friends, neighbours, and other contacts, clubs, businesses and organisations close by. We will ask students to confirm their plans in January, so please support them in sourcing their placement in the coming weeks.

Futures Fair 2023 - is taking place at BHASVIC on the 19 January from 10am-2.30pm. We are delighted to announce that 120 organisations will be attending. Parents and Carers are welcome to come along, so please do check nearer the time for full details on our [Careers and Employability](#) web page.

And finally...

We hope you enjoy a look back at some highlights that have taken place in our BHASVIC Community in [BHASVIC Autumn Term Celebration](#). This includes the two nights of festive fun we enjoyed last week at our Christmas Concert. Thank you to everyone who was involved in such a fantastic production!

Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break.

Best wishes,



William Baldwin
Principal