



21 October 2022

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our first half term, it is great to report that students are working hard, settling in well and engaging in all sorts of enrichment activity.

Student Enrichment

Our Student Union have been very busy, running the Student Forum last week, holding a charity cake sale for Mental Health Awareness Day, and ending this half term off with their BHASOW'EEN fancy dress event. Following Freshers' Fair, we now have 21 student societies which are registered and students can take part in anything from Dungeons & Dragons to the Debating Society. If students want to find out what's available, please check [Student Societies page on BHASVLE](#) or for more information, drop into the BHASVIC Events team office (ground floor or Student Services Centre). These events are always advertised via the MyBHASVIC app, so if students haven't downloaded this yet – make sure you do so over half term!

Progress Reviews (Round 1 – Autumn Term)

All students are currently completing Progress Review reflections with tutors. On Tuesday 8 & Friday 11 November, these will be followed by online Teams appointments between first year (A1) students and teachers. The complete 'Round 1 Progress Review' will then be published to all parents and carers on Wednesday 16 November via the [ParentPortal](#) online account. Further information about Progress Reviews is available from the [Parents and Carers' section of our website](#). Please remember that students have lots of ongoing feedback throughout the year; you can check attendance, support plans and other information using the MyBHASVIC app (students) or ParentPortal (parents/carers) at any time.

Parents' Evenings

Following on from Progress Reviews, we have our A2 Parents and Carers' Evenings on Thursday 24 November and Wednesday 30 November; and first year students have Parents and Carers' Evenings on Thursday 12 January and Wednesday 18 January. Full details and instructions will be sent nearer the time.

Reading Week & Personal Development days (8 & 11 November)

Students will be following a different routine during the week beginning the 7 November and may be in college on different days, as well as working remotely.

Monday 7 November	Normal lessons – all students onsite as usual
Tuesday 8 November:	A1 students complete online 1:1s with all their teachers. A2 students join Personal Development workshops and complete UCAS applications. Normal timetable is suspended
Wednesday 9 November:	All students on study leave. Work will be set; student ambassadors to help at Open Event (3-7pm)
Thursday 10 November:	All students on study leave. Work will be set; student ambassadors to help at Open Event (3-7pm)
Friday 11 November:	A1 students complete online 1:1s with all their teachers. A2 students join Personal Development workshops and complete UCAS applications. Normal timetable is suspended.

Library Opening

The library will be open over half term (10am-4pm) and, as normal, during Reading Week (8am-6pm) but will close earlier on Wednesday 9 November and Thursday 10 November (2pm) and Friday 11 November (5pm).

UCAS – application deadlines (A2 students)

We encourage students to apply in good time, and last year we processed almost 1500 applications from current and ex-students. Students can apply to one or two choices early and add any more choices until the 25 January 2023 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. The internal deadlines for UCAS applications are as follows:

- 11 November - BHASVIC Internal Priority Application deadline
- 02 December - BHASVIC Internal Standard deadline for guaranteed processing before the national UCAS deadline

Supported UCAS workshops to complete applications will be running for A2 students on Tuesday 8 November and Friday 11 November in the Library and Student Learning Centre (SLC). If parents have queries, please check the [Higher Education link on the Parent/Carer page of the website](#).

Wellbeing

Just a reminder that we are now running our pilot for the Neuro Ninja 1:1 coaching and if students would like to sign up, they will need to complete the [Student Support Online Referral 2022-23](#).

In addition to our package of support for students, parents and carers also have access to the [#NeuroNinja Learning Hub](#) where there are lots of short videos about how to support students to build metacognitive skills. Metacognition is a powerful way of thinking, applying insight to our daily experiences to improve them.

We also have a series of [parents and carers webinars](#) coming up next term, all starting at 8.00pm so please make a note in your diaries:

- Thursday 10 November
- Thursday 17 November
- Thursday 24 November

Don't forget we have a wealth of resources on our [wellbeing](#) page

As [ActionYourPotential](#) is an external organisation they need have your permission to have your details to work with you. Action Your Potential take privacy seriously and will only ever contact you to offer support – [here is their GDPR policy](#). Finally, World Mental Health Day took place on 10 October please view more information [HERE](#).

Parking in or near BHASVIC

We would like to remind all the college community to be considerate of our neighbours whilst parking or picking up / dropping off. Please be mindful of our local residents by parking legally, not leaving engines running and not blocking up roads or driveways.

And finally, it was good to see BHASVIC appearing in the [top 10 for Oxbridge](#) offers; still one of only four state education providers in this list.

Best wishes,



Alison Cousens
Assistant Principal (Student Services)