



19 March 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Here is a round-up of some of the headlines to keep you up to date with the latest news and developments at BHASVIC.

## **A1 Progress Reviews**

Progress Reviews will be published for A1 students, parents and carers by Monday 21 March; they can be accessed via your Student Advantage or [Parent Advantage](#) online account. Hopefully, you will be familiar with this system by now but we have linked some helpful guides at the end. If you require further technical support with Student or Parent Advantage please email [cis@bhasvic.ac.uk](mailto:cis@bhasvic.ac.uk).

## **Summer 2021 Grade Awarding**

I hope you have had a chance to look at the detail and digest the process we will be adopting, following my letter earlier this week. Departments are now in the process of telling students the focus of their end point assessments, which will take place at the start of May. These mini-assessments will take place in classroom settings and will contribute towards final grades. They are not designed to be high-stakes events, instead they allow students the opportunity to show what they know and can do in our holistic approach to grading this year.

## **Term Dates**

Timetabled lessons for courses finishing this summer will end at the start of May. From Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May until Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May we move into a period of End Point Assessments (EPAs) for these courses. After their last EPA, students will have completed their courses at BHASVIC.

In some ways it seems wrong that we say goodbye to our leavers in mid-May after a year of such disruption. However, I firmly believe that these students do not need more time in the classroom – it feels to me that we have majored on subject content and the specification during remote learning – what they need is time with friends, opportunities to socialise, to immerse themselves in culture, sport and being outside, to pick up part-time jobs, to travel – all the other things that have been so curtailed during this pandemic.

Aside from that, a mid-May finish allows us a week each for marking, moderating and uploading grades to the exam boards, so these dates are bound by external deadlines outside of our control. They also replicate when our leavers depart us in any 'normal' year. We hope to be able to put on a leavers event in conjunction with Results Day – restrictions allowing – in order to say a proper well done and goodbye to our students.

A1 lessons will continue throughout the period of EPAs. The Summer holidays for A1 students will begin at 3:45 on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July. A1 students will have a non-timetabled week straight after half-term (7-11 June) where they will engage in a series of remote activities in order to facilitate our staff INSET week. More details to follow on this. All dates can be viewed via our online calendar [here](#).

## **Testing**

Our mass testing facility onsite is ending today and we are transitioning to home testing. We have completed over 7,000 tests on site with just two positive results. A huge thanks to students for their cooperation with this. Nearly 2,000 home test kits have been distributed to students via their onsite test appointments this week. We ask that students continue to test during the Easter holidays and self-test before coming back onsite after Easter. Those who still need to pick up home testing kits or to re-stock in order to have enough tests over Easter can do so at the Sports Café from Monday. Results of home tests should be recorded at: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

### **Satisfaction survey**

The link to our survey for parents is [here](#) (Students can access their survey [here](#)). We really value your insights and feedback. We asked the same questions in the Autumn term so will be able to benchmark against these. There is an additional question around grade awarding this time and we encourage you to use the comment section of this survey. We will read all of these comments but, unfortunately, won't be able to reply individually.

### **A1-A2 Transfer**

A1 students are finalising their A1- A2 transfer options through tutorial if you would like further information about this important stage in the student journey, please visit the [A1-A2 Transfer webpage](#).

### **Virtual Futures Fair**

This launched to students on 1<sup>st</sup> March to tie in with National Careers Week and allowed parents and carers access to this section of the [BHASVLE](#) (using the guest username and password below). We would like to extend this access to ensure you have had the time to explore the extensive resources coordinated by our Careers Team. We understand that the array of possible progression routes and careers can be bewildering for both parents and young people, so we will also be available to answer questions that you might have via the email address [careers@bhasvic.ac.uk](mailto:careers@bhasvic.ac.uk).

Username: visitor2021

Password: Bhas-FF2021

### **Adult Education News**

We are currently enrolling on our 10-week courses starting after the Easter holidays. Here is the [course schedule](#) and full details can be found on our [Adult Education](#) page.

### **Drop off/pick up**

We've had a number of neighbours contact us and would ask that those who pick-up and drop-off students at college by car to do so with consideration. Please avoid double parking and switch off engines.

### **Higher Education Online Event**

More details will be coming soon regarding our Higher Education Online Event, scheduled for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April, for A1 parents and carers. Students are also welcome.

### **Links**

Please see the following links to guides and website pages available offering a range of resources for parents and carers:

#### **Advantage**

- [Parent Advantage - How to authenticate account](#)
- [Parent Advantage Quick Reference Guide - How to access Progress Reviews](#)
- [Parent Advantage - How to solve general problems](#)

#### **General**

- [Parents and Carers Dashboard](#)
- [Our Support Services](#)
- [Careers & Employability](#)
- [Higher Education](#)
- [Wellbeing](#)

With continued best wishes,



William Baldwin  
Principal