

INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION

JANUARY 2024

Name

Student ID

WELCOME TO BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY

Thank you for choosing Birmingham City University (BCU) as your place of study.

As Director of the International Office I would like to offer a very warm welcome to you, on behalf of all of us at the University.

Birmingham City University is focused on making your experience here a positive and enjoyable one. We will support you through your new and exciting journey to gain a qualification that will not only increase your employability within the UK and throughout the world, but also give you the opportunity to develop your personal and social skills.

The International Office have been working hard to ensure the International Orientation programme is packed full of useful information and lots of opportunities for you to make friends and settle into life in the UK. If you need anything, please ask any of us.

The programme will run online live induction sessions covering a range of topics including Health and Wellbeing, Library Workshop, Staying Safe in Birmingham, Understanding British Culture, Where to go in Birmingham and the UK, and Money, Banking and Budgeting, including opening a bank account.

As well as the programme providing you with all the essential information that you require during the talks, there are many fun and exciting social activities for you to take part in such as Movie Afternoon, BCU's Bingo, Fun and Games and many more. For any students who are not able to join the talks or the social events, please note this is a four-week Orientation programme, so there is plenty of time to get involved when you arrive.

If you need anything throughout the programme, there is plenty of support available to you. We have the International Welcome Desk open Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4pm in the Curzon Building throughout the entire programme as well as the daily Orientation Helpdesk 12 - 12.30pm. You can also just ask your question on the Online International Welcome Desk at www.bcu.ac.uk/international/welcome.

I look forward to welcoming you and I wish you every success and happiness during your time at Birmingham City University.

Parmila Murria Director, International Office

OUR BUDDIES ARE HERE TO HELP YOU

We have a dedicated team of Student Buddies to help you throughout Orientation.

All our Buddies are current students of the University and are giving their time for free to ensure you have a supported and fun-packed Orientation.

Our Buddies are here to:

- Support you during your Orientation and help you to settle in
- Answer any questions you have about life at the University, Birmingham or the UK
- Help you to solve any problems you may have during International Orientation
- Ensure you have the best time and make it easier for you to make new friends
- Help you complete your 'Passport to BCU'
- Take you on campus tours and Birmingham city centre tours.



HOW ORIENTATION WORKS

As students arrive from all over the world, we want to make Orientation as accessible as possible. Some students will arrive in the UK later than others but we're making sure that nobody misses out on key information and opportunities to make friends.

To register for International Orientation and collect your Welcome Pack, please visit the International Welcome Desk.

Week 1 - Monday 15 to Friday 19 January

The first week of Orientation will be held on campus in the Curzon Building, City Centre Campus. Check the timetable for session start times and come along to Room C087 on the Ground Floor to join us for registration and any social activities. There will be information sessions in the morning and afternoon upstairs in Lecture Hall C192 with a social event in the afternoon/evening in C087. Come and meet the International Events Team and our Student Buddies, who will be able to answer your questions and help you get familiar with the campus before classes start.

Weeks 2-4 - Monday 22 January to Friday 9 February

The following weeks of the International Orientation programme will follow a blended approach of online information sessions and on campus social events. Please refer to the programme to check which sessions will be online and click the title to join via MS Teams.

JOINING SOCIAL EVENTS

For many of our social events throughout the year, you can sign up to our events via the BCU iCity International Office Events Team Page. See what's on and never miss an event.



https://icity.bcu.ac.uk/internationaloffice/ International-Events-Team/International-Student-Experience-Events

BCUSU also regularly run events in the Eagle & Ball. Check out what's on here: www.bcusu.com/whats-on

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- Please email any questions to international.events@bcu.ac.uk
- If you have trouble finding a session on campus, please view this guide to our City Centre Campus: www.bcu.ac.uk/cc-map



WEEK 1 15–19 JANUARY

SCAN TO BOOK

on-campus events, or join online events



🕺 On Campus 🚽

🖳 Online session

9.30 - 10.30am Main Registration	 Registration and collecting your Welcome Pack Meet your Buddy Group International Welcome Desk
10.30am - 12pm Buddy Time	 Meet your Buddy (Current Students) and other students Register with the doctor Tours of campus
12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Helpdesk 1 - 2pm Welcome Talk 2 - 3pm Introduction to	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
1 – 2pm Welcome Talk	A welcome to the university and the city of Birmingham. Meet key staff and see what's happening during the International Orientation Week.
2 - 3pm Introduction to Student Services	 Mental Health and Wellbeing Disability Support Money and Childcare Student Governance
3 – 4pm The Colour Campus Hunt	Follow your Buddy to join the campus hunt where you can meet other students and win points for your team!
4 – 6pm Movie Afternoon	Take a seat and enjoy the afternoon watching a film. We're keeping the film a secret until the unveiling on the day! Hope you enjoy!
9.30 - 10.30am Talk:Essential Information Session	Don't miss this one! This talk will give you the information you require to get settled into life in the UK and at Birmingham City University.
10.30 - 11.15am Graduate+ Workshop	Learn about the fantastic Graduate+ Award scheme and how to stand out to future employers.
11.15am – 12pm Staying Safe in Birmingham	Top tips from a police officer for keeping you and your friends' safe.
Staying Safe in Birmingham 12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Helpdesk 12.30 - 2pm Afternoon Tunes and Games 2 - 2.30pm	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
12.30 - 2pm Afternoon Tunes and Games	Relax in C087 for the afternoon. Make some new friends. Music will be playing and there will be games available.
2 - 2.30pm Talk: BCUSU Students' Union	Come and meet your Students' Union to find out how to make the most of your time at BCU and in the UK. Find out how to join societies in this session.
2.30 - 3pm Library Workshop	An introduction to the library. Find out the differences of studying in the UK from our expert librarians.
3.30 – 5pm Fun and Games	Join us for an exciting afternoon of friendship-building games and activities with the opportunity to win prizes. The perfect way to make new friends, try activities, and have lots of fun.

	10 – 11am Talk: International Advisors and UKVI Compliance 🔗	Find out about Visas and other legal requirements including protecting your Student Visa and Graduate Route.
	11am – 12pm 🔊 Talk: Careers+ Introduction	Careers+ is the careers service for all BCU students and graduates. This talk will provide you with information on the services they offer, tips for finding a part-time job and UK CV advice.
	12 – 12.30pm International Orientation Helpdesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	1 – 2pm Health and Wellbeing	Find out how to look after yourself during your time in the UK.
	2 – 3pm Talk: Centre for Academic Success	This talk will cover information about how the Centre can support you through study guides, workshops, resources, and tutorials.
	3 – 5pm BCU's Bingo	Join us for a social afternoon of Bingo! Grab your bingo cards and have chances to win prizes through this amazing event.
	9.30 - 10.30am Workshop: Understanding British Culture	A fun workshop presented by our Student Buddies, designed to help you understand the British culture, social rules, food and Birmingham slang.
	10.45 - 11.45am Talk: Where to go in Birmingham and the UK	Join the Buddies as they present an overview of the many things to do and see in and around Birmingham, from tourist attractions to restaurants.
	12 – 12.30pm International Orientation	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	1 – 5pm BCU Sports Afternoon 🛛 🕬	Your chance to take part in a fun packed afternoon of various sports and activities. Remember to wear comfortable clothes! • Badminton • Netball • Table Tennis • Volleyball • Cricket • Indoor Football • Basketball
	9.30 - 10.30am Talk: Money, Banking and Budgeting	This talk will help you to manage your money. Understand the British currency, costs of living, how to open a bank account and tips on saving money and student discounts.
	10.30 - 11am Francisco Frances How To – Hacks, Tips, Tricks	Watch your Student Buddies teach you some hacks, tips and tricks to help you survive student life!
	11am - 2pm Birmingham City Tours	Meet up with Buddies for a tour of Birmingham city centre. The Buddies will show you all the best places to visit, eat, drink, shop, and party. The Buddies will suggest some places for lunch if you would like to eat together - food and drinks charged as ordered. We suggest that you wear comfortable shoes.
	12 – 12.30pm International Orientation	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	5 - 7pm The Main Event	The finale for this Orientation week with music, performances and dancing. Find out which colour team has won this year's International Orientation Week Trophy, is it Blue or Yellow? A great way to close off your Orientation week and celebrate your start to life at BCU.

Thursday 18 January

Friday 19 January

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WEEK 2 22–26 JANUARY

SCAN TO BOOK





555 On Campus

Doline session

	10 - 10.30am Welcome Talk	A welcome to the university and the city of Birmingham. Meet key staff and see what's happening during the International Orientation programme.
ž	10.30 - 11am	A welcome from the Orientation team telling you about the exciting activities and talks throughout the week and how you can get involved.
Monday 22 January	11am - 12pm Buddy Time	Meet your Student Buddies who will take you on a campus tour, where you can hear about their experiences at BCU and ask any questions you have.
	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation 🗐 Helpdesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	1 – 2pm How To – Hacks, Tips, Tricks	Watch your Student Buddies teach you some hacks, tips and tricks to help you survive student life!
	3 – 5pm Movie Afternoon	Take a seat and enjoy the afternoon watching a film. We're keeping the film a secret until the unveiling on the day! Hope you enjoy!
	10 - 10.30am Library Workshop	An introduction to the library. Find out the differences of studying in the UK from our expert librarians.
Tue	11 - 11.30am Staying Safe in Birmingham	Top tips from a police officer for keeping you and your friends safe.
Tuesday 23 January	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Lebesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	1.30 - 2.30pm	Come and meet your Students' Union to find out how to make the most of your time at BCU and in the UK. Find out how to join societies in this session.
	3 – 5pm Fun and Games	Join us for an exciting afternoon of friendship-building games and activities with the opportunity to win prizes. The perfect way to make new friends, try activities, and have lots of fun.

Click the session title to join an online event. 🔆

Wodnosday 26 January	9.30 - 10.30am Talk:Essential Information Session	Don't miss this one! This talk will give you the information you require to get settled into life in the UK and at Birmingham City University.
	10.30 - 11.30am Talk: Health and Wellbeing	Find out how to look after yourself during your time in the UK.
	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Helpdesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	2 - 3pm Talk: Careers+ Introduction	Careers+ is the careers service for all BCU students and graduates. This talk will provide you with information on the services they offer, tips for finding a part-time job and UK CV advice.
	3 - 5pm Afternoon Tunes and Games	Time to relax! Music will be playing and there will be games available. Come along and make some new friends.
Thursday 25 January	9.30 - 10.30am Talk: Centre for Academic Success	This talk will cover information about how the Centre can support you through study guides, workshops, resources and tutorials.
	10.30 - 11.30am Talk: International Advisors and UKVI Compliance	Find out about Visas and other legal requirements including protecting your Student Visa and Graduate Route.
	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop in session and have your queries answered.
	1.30 - 2.30pm Workshop: Understanding British Culture	A fun workshop presented by our Student Buddies, designed to help you understand the British culture, social rules, food and Birmingham slang.
	2.30 - 3.30pm Talk: Where to go in Birmingham and the UK	Join the Buddies as they present an overview of the many things to do and see in and around Birmingham, from tourist attractions to restaurants.
	3.30 – 5pm BCU's Bingo	Join us for a social afternoon of Bingo! Grab your bingo cards and have chances to win prizes through this amazing event.
	9.30 - 10.30am Graduate+ Workshop	Learn about the fantastic Graduate+ Award scheme and how to stand out to future employers.
Eriday 26 January	11am - 12pm Talk: Money, Banking and Budgeting	This talk will help you to understand the British currency, costs of living, how to open a bank account and tips on saving money and student discounts.
	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	1 - 3pm Birmingham City Tours	Meet up with Buddies for a tour of Birmingham city centre. The Buddies will show you all the best places to visit, eat, drink, shop, and party. The Buddies will suggest some places for lunch if you would like to eat together - food and drinks charged as ordered. We suggest that you wear comfortable shoes.
	4 - 6pm The Main Event	The finale for this Orientation week with music, performances and dancing. A great way to close off your Orientation week and celebrate your start to life at BCU.

Wednesday 24 January

Thursday 25 January

Friday 26 January

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WEEK 3 29 JAN-2 FEB

SCAN TO BOOK on-campus events, or join online events



5 On Campus

Online session

Monday 29 January	10 - 10.30am 💽	A welcome to the University and the city of Birmingham. Meet key staff and see what's happening during the International Orientation programme.
	10.30 - 11am	A welcome from the Orientation team telling you about the exciting activities and talks throughout the week and how you can get involved.
	11am - 12pm Buddy time	Meet your Student Buddies who will take you on a campus tour, where you can hear about their experiences at BCU and ask any questions you have.
	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	1 – 3pm Movie Afternoon	Take a seat and enjoy the afternoon watching a film. We're keeping the film a secret until the unveiling on the day! Hope you enjoy!
	10 - 11am Workshop: Understanding 🚊 British Culture	A fun workshop presented by our Student Buddies, designed to help you understand the British culture, social rules, food and Birmingham slang.
Tuesd	11am - 12pm Talk: Where to go in Birmingham and the UK	Join the Buddies as they present an overview of the many things to do and see in and around Birmingham, from tourist attractions to restaurants.
Tuesday 30 January	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Lelpdesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
nuary	1.30 - 2.30pm	Come and meet your Students' Union to find out how to make the most of your time at BCU and in the UK. Find out how to join societies in this session.
	3 – 5pm Fun and Games	Join us for an exciting afternoon of friendship-building games and activities with the opportunity to win prizes. The perfect way to make new friends, try activities, and have lots of fun.

Click the session title to join an online event. 🔆

Wedne:	10.30 - 11.30am	Careers+ is the careers service for all BCU students and graduates. This talk will provide information on the services they offer, tips for finding a part-time job and UK CV advice.
Wednesday 31 January	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Lelpdesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
anuary	2 - 5pm Games Afternoon	Come along for a relaxed afternoon of board games, gaming apps and more. Make friends and show your competitive side in this great event.
	9.30 - 10am How To - Hacks, Tips, Tricks	Watch your Student Buddies teach you some hacks, tips and tricks to help you survive student life!
Thur	11am - 12pm Coffee hour	Come along, grab a coffee and get to know your fellow students and Buddies.
Thursday 1 February	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Lelpdesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
bruary	1.30 - 2.30pm Your Orientation	Join this event and share your experience of International Orientation and your goals as you start your studies at BCU. Chat and make new friends in this social event.
	3 – 5pm BCU's Bingo	Join us for a social afternoon of Bingo! Grab your bingo cards and have chances to win prizes through this amazing event.
	9.30 - 10.30am Graduate+ Workshop	Learn about the fantastic Graduate+ Award scheme and how to stand out to future employers.
Friday	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Lelpdesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
Friday 2 February	1 - 4pm Birmingham City Tours	Meet up with Buddies for a tour of Birmingham city centre. The Buddies will show you all the best places to visit, eat, drink, shop, and party. The Buddies will suggest some places for lunch if you would like to eat together - food and drinks charged as ordered. We suggest that you wear comfortable shoes.
	4 - 6pm The Main Event	The finale for this Orientation week with music, performances and dancing. A great way to close off your Orientation week and celebrate your start to life at BCU.

WEEK 4 5–9 FEBRUARY

SCAN TO BOOK on-campus events, or join online events



5 On Campus

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Click the session title to join an online event. 🔆

Wednesday 7 February	1.30 - 2.15pm Workshop: Understanding	A fun workshop presented by our Student Buddies, designed to help you understand the British culture, social rules, food and Birmingham slang.
	2.15 - 3pm Talk: Where to go in Birmingham and the UK	Join the Buddies as they present an overview of the many things to do and see in and around Birmingham, from tourist attractions to restaurants.
	3 – 5pm BCU's Bingo	Join us for a social afternoon of Bingo! Grab your bingo cards and have chances to win prizes through this amazing event.
	9.30 - 10am 📃 How To - Hacks, Tips, Tricks	Watch your Student Buddies teach you some hacks, tips and tricks to help you survive student life!
-	11am - 12pm Coffee and Cake	Come along, grab a coffee and some cake. Get to know your fellow students and Buddies and staff members.
Thursday 8 February	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation Helpdesk	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	1 - 2pm Talk: Centre for Academic Success	This talk will cover information about how the Centre can support you through study guides, workshops, resources and tutorials.
	2 - 3pm Talk: Money, Banking and Budgeting	This talk will help you to manage your money. Understand the British currency, costs of living, how to open a bank account and tips on saving money and student discounts.
	3 – 5pm Games Afternoon	Come along for a relaxed afternoon of board games, gaming apps and more. Make friends and show your competitive side in this great event.
Friday 9 February	9.30 - 10.30am Graduate+ Workshop	Learn about the fantastic Graduate+ Award scheme and how to stand out to future employers.
	11am - 12pm Your Orientation	Join this event and share your experience of International Orientation and your goals as you start your studies at BCU. Chat and make new friends in this social event.
	12 - 12.30pm International Orientation	Have any questions or need further support? Join this daily drop-in session and have your queries answered.
	1 - 4pm Birmingham City Tours	Meet up with Buddies for a tour of Birmingham city centre. The Buddies will show you all the best places to visit, eat, drink, shop, and party. The Buddies will suggest some places for lunch if you would like to eat together - food and drinks charged as ordered. We suggest that you wear comfortable shoes.
	4 - 6pm The Main Event	The finale for this Orientation week with music, performances and dancing. A great way to close off your Orientation programme and celebrate your start to life at BCU.

INTERNATIONAL WELCOME DESK

Week 1-4 Monday 15 January to Friday 9 February 9.30am - 4pm Curzon Building, Main Entrance

The International Welcome Desk will be open throughout the entire programme to answer any questions that you may have about starting your journey at BCU. Please do not hesitate to pop along and say 'Hi!' and just come for a chat and we will be happy to see you. You can ask us anything from, 'How do I connect to Wi-Fi on campus?' to 'I need help to enrol!'.

Remember to pop by as soon as you arrive to collect your International Welcome Pack containing all sorts of free goodies and useful items to help you get settled into life at BCU and the UK!

INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION HELPDESK

For those students who have yet to arrive, we will also be hosting a daily virtual International Orientation Helpdesk every weekday at 12 – 12.30pm. Please use the link or scan the QR code below. www.bcu.ac.uk/international/welcome





PASSPORT TO BCU

Throughout International Orientation complete the tasks on the list below. Each time you complete a task make sure you tick it off. Bring your completed Passport to the International Welcome Desk to claim your prize!

