



BIRMINGHAM CITY
University

Guide for Schools and Colleges

2025/26





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How to get in touch

This guide is designed to provide an overview of the events, activities and services that we offer to schools and colleges throughout the academic year.





If you would like more information on any of the events or services described in this guide, or if you have something more specific in mind, please get in touch.

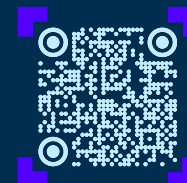


schoolsandcolleges@bcu.ac.uk



www.bcu.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges

 [birminghamcityuniversity](https://www.facebook.com/birminghamcityuniversity)
 [birminghamcityuni](https://www.youtube.com/birminghamcityuni)
 [myBCU](https://www.instagram.com/myBCU)
 [birminghamcityuni](https://twitter.com/birminghamcityuni)





Our work with schools and colleges

With around 31,000 students from over 100 countries, Birmingham City University is a large and diverse place to study. We put students at the heart of everything we do, giving them the best opportunities for future success.

We work with thousands of students, delivering activities, talks and events designed to boost understanding of higher education and future career opportunities. Providing information, advice, and guidance for students at all stages of their academic journey, our dedicated student recruitment team have years of experience in working with schools and colleges.

We offer a range of activities and events designed to encourage your students to consider their future choices and support their transition into higher education.

We offer a variety of explore days which offer a full day of activities on site, as well as talks and workshops that we can deliver at your school or college. If you have a specific request or would like to discuss the needs of students, please contact us.



Our partnerships

Widening Participation Charter

We commit to:

- Recognising the importance of a diverse student population, endeavouring to reach all groups under-represented in higher education.
- Providing impartial and honest advice and support to young people.
- Listening and responding to feedback from young people who interact with our widening participation services to ensure our work is meeting a need and supporting progression into HE.
- Working collaboratively with our FE partners and community links to provide a wide range of support for students looking to progress.

Aimhigher West Midlands

As a key institutional partner within Aimhigher West Midlands, Birmingham City University recognises the importance of widening participation initiatives within higher education.

Working in collaboration with other institutions in the region, we provide a wide range of activities and resources for students, teachers, careers advisers, parents and carers.



Higher education talks and workshops

We can deliver talks and workshops at your school or college as a standalone activity or as part of a wider event, such as a careers day or parents' evening. All of these sessions can be tailored to specific year groups at your request. We can also offer introductory talks on subject areas, and how these link to future careers.

We are available to attend careers fairs or parents' evenings to deliver talks and give one to one advice to students on their choice of course and progression to university. If you would like us to represent BCU at your school or college fair or deliver one of the higher education talks, please contact us by emailing schoolsandcolleges@bcu.ac.uk.



Just some of our talks



Introduction to higher education

Covering the benefits of studying at higher education level and how to effectively research courses and universities, in order to make informed decisions about the future.



Life as a university student

Our current students speak about their journey into higher education. Includes advice on moving away, a packing list and the support you will receive at university.



Student finance

Outlining funding that is available, how to apply, repayments and additional sources of income.



Writing your UCAS application and personal statement

Explaining the UCAS application process and different ways to write about skills and attributes – something that will always be useful in the future.



Study skills and revision techniques

Exploring study techniques and 'revision hacks' in order to aid general study or prepare for upcoming exams.



Interview and portfolio session

Highlighting the significance of interviews and portfolios, whilst providing advice on how best to prepare for, and execute, an interview or portfolio review.



Choosing your university and course

Exploring the questions students should be asking themselves when choosing their universities, to make sure they are able to make an informed choice.



Guidance for parents and carers

Unpacking the application cycle, highlighting key dates and deadlines, and providing top tips on ways to support someone during their studies all the way through to the day they start.

Events and workshops

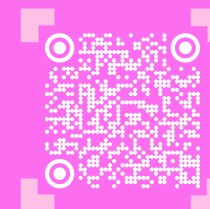
We offer a range of different events and workshops on and off campus, aimed at key stage 4 and 5 students. Our Explore Days involve a whole day of activity where students will take part in multiple sessions across one particular subject.

Masterclasses offer a shorter session onsite and allow students to experience a taster workshop in a subject of your choice. Talks and workshops can be hosted both on our campus or at your school or college, allowing an academic to come to you.



Contact us by emailing
schoolsandcolleges@bcu.ac.uk

www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/schools-and-colleges/subject-specific



We offer a range of talks across all our subject areas

Accounting, Finance
and Economics

Construction and
the Built Environment

Games

Music and Sound

Acting and Theatre

Education and
Teacher Training

Health Professions

Nursing and Midwifery

Architecture

Engineering

Jewellery, Gemmology
and Horology

Psychology

Art and Design

English

Law

Social Work and
Community Studies

Business and
Management

Fashion and Textiles

Marketing

Sociology and
Criminology

Computing

Film, Animation and
Photography

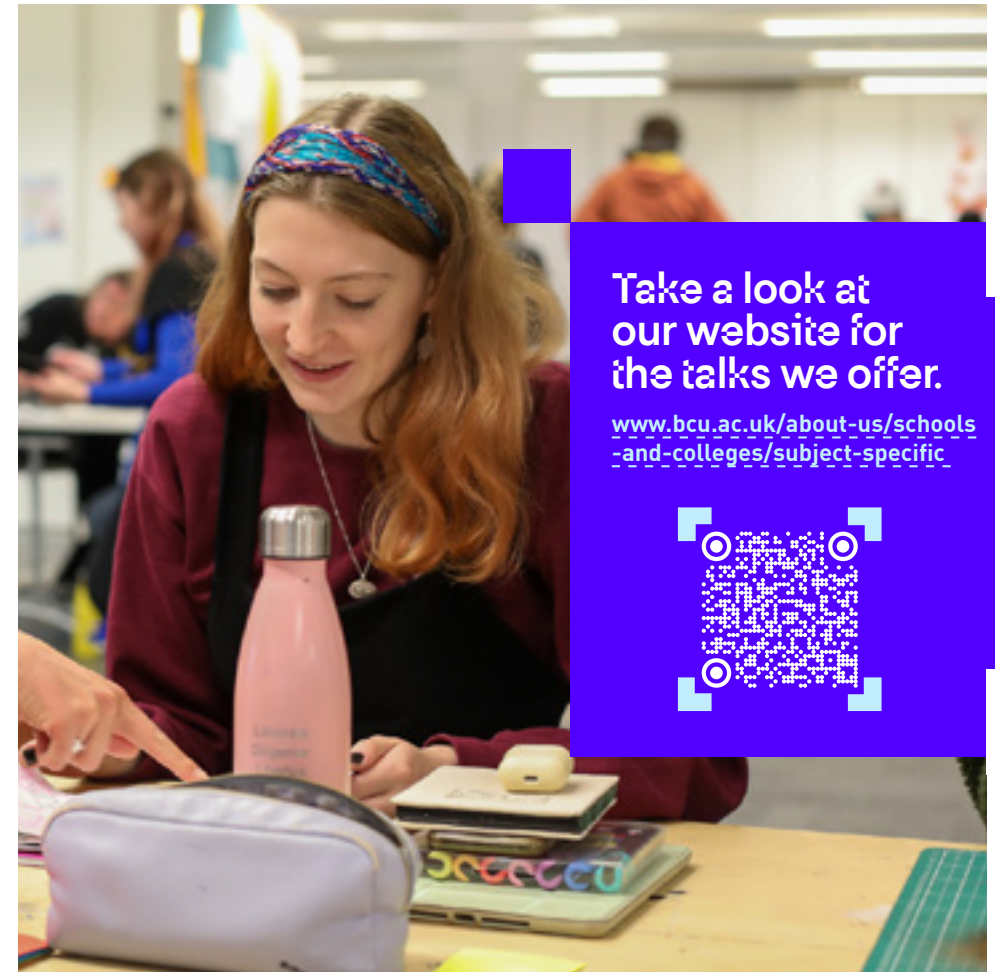
Media and Journalism

Sport and Life Sciences



Subject talks

We offer a series of talks that provide a closer look at individual courses, giving students in years 11, 12 and 13 an overview of contemporary topics and research. This allows them to develop a deeper understanding of current issues within their chosen subject area.



Take a look at
our website for
the talks we offer.

[www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/schools
-and-colleges/subject-specific](http://www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/schools-and-colleges/subject-specific)



Our talks can be subject specific and delivered at your school or college to further investigate a particular subject area. Talks include topics ranging from 'Vlogging 101' to 'Geographical Profiling

and Catching Serial Offenders', as just two examples. To view all of our subject specific talks on offer, scan the QR code above to see the full range on our website.

Campus visit days

Bespoke days and campus visits

We can offer bespoke visits or subject based days to meet your needs across all our campuses at BCU. These give students an insight to our wide array of courses, our industry standard facilities, as well as a taste of student life at BCU. To book a bespoke visit, please email us detailing:

- the number of students
- the year group you hope to bring along
- any specific subjects or facilities you are interested in finding out more about
- any suitable dates

We will then work closely with academic staff to bring this to fruition.

For post-16 students

With a tailored programme of activities and talks, our post-16 visit days aim to equip students with the necessary skills and knowledge to aid their transition from further education to higher education. Campus visits are an excellent opportunity to gain first-hand experience of the university environment. So, whether your students are just beginning to consider their options for the future or are ready to submit their UCAS applications, our student recruitment team can provide expert advice, guidance and support. Subject to availability, these visits can be arranged throughout the year.

For pre-16 students

A fun introduction to higher education themes through a range of interactive activities, aimed at challenging assumptions and increasing aspiration levels in your learners. Pre-16 visit days include an interaction with us both before and after your visit, to ensure your students get the most out of their campus experience.



How to book

To find out more about our on campus visit days please email us: schoolsandcolleges@bcu.ac.uk

Open Days

Open Days are the perfect opportunity for students to find out more about universities, the courses that they are interested in and what their learning and student life could be like. Our subject and course talks at Open Days are the best way to find out about the course and faculty that they will belong to. In addition to this, students can view accommodation, speak to our support services and have all of their questions answered.

Students can join us at an Open Day on the following dates:



Saturday 4 October 25



Saturday 15 November 25



Saturday 27 June 26

We are also holding a Schools Open Day on Friday 26 June.

For more information about upcoming events, please visit www.bcu.ac.uk/open-days.

Teachers and advisers' conference

BCU's annual Teachers and Advisors Conference brings together individuals from across the sector, to share updates and empower you in your role. You'll have the chance to attend a variety of engaging sessions, all aimed at supporting and informing your vital work with students. You'll be able to speak to our staff and student ambassadors, and network with other teachers and advisers in the sector, to share best practice and discuss current trends.

We are always excited to welcome a variety of teachers, careers advisers and other education practitioners to campus for a day of talks and workshops focusing on BCU and updates on the wider sector. Please take a look at our website for updates on the date of the conference.

To book please visit:

www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/schools-and-colleges/teacher-and-adviser-events



Support for teachers and advisers

Here at Birmingham City University, we work closely with teaching, careers and pastoral support staff from across the West Midlands and beyond, to support students on their journey towards higher education.

Part of this commitment includes the provision of CPD and training opportunities for school and college staff, to increase awareness of higher education issues, share best practice and to support the delivery of relevant and effective advice and guidance. Events include workshops, talks and on campus visits as well as our annual Teachers and Advisers' Conference.

We also offer a range of CPD sessions that can be tailored to suit individual institutions' needs, focus on specific subject areas, or training in the use of a particular facility.

We are happy to create bespoke sessions that match staff needs and these can be delivered in a variety of formats.

For current events, please visit:

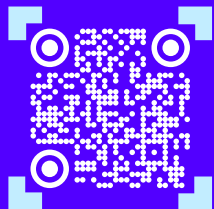
www.bcu.ac.uk/teacher-and-adviser-events



Resource Hub

We have created a range of resources for you and your students to explore the world of higher education. From videos to how-to guides, these resources are designed to support students with the decision-making process as well as the transition to university. These can be used at home or within the classroom. Our aim is to provide your students with a range of useful information and activities to help them to make decisions about their future.

Find out more: www.bcu.ac.uk/resource-hub



Finance

We know that finance may be one of the biggest factors when making the decision about going to university; sharpen students' skills with our budgeting calculator and interactive payslip.

Your university application

Advice on the UCAS application process, deadlines and personal statements, as well as downloadable resources to help students plan and begin to write their own statement.

The benefits of university

Making the decision about going to university is a big one and we provide students with advice and guidance about the benefits of studying a degree, as well as what to research to support them with making the right choice.

Preparing for university

Get students university ready and find tips on study skills for you to use now, and for students to take forward into their university studies. From employability advice to mental health and wellbeing tips.



UCAS application process

How to apply – 2026 entry



02
SEPTEMBER
2025

Completed applications can be submitted on UCAS

02
OCTOBER
2025

Application deadline for conservatoire music applications

14
JANUARY
2026

Equal consideration deadline for most courses

26
FEBRUARY
2026

UCAS Extra Opens
Student finance applications open around the end of February

MAY - JUNE
2026

Deadline to choose firm and insurance choice





JUNE
2026

Deadline for universities to make offers

AUGUST
2026

A Level results day and Clearing

www.bcu.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges
schoolsandcolleges@bcu.ac.uk

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