

The logo for Bournemouth University, featuring the letters 'BU' in a stylized, white, outlined font on a teal background.

**Bournemouth  
University**



# BU UPDATE

Summer 2016

for teachers and advisers

## Spotlight on our growing campus

**If you've visited our Talbot Campus recently, you might have spotted some changes. We've been investing heavily in our facilities, and as part of that we're proud to tell you about our new buildings.**

One that's hard to miss is our brand new £10.5 million Student Centre, which opened in March last year. This is the home of our Students' Union, and also has a range of social and learning spaces. If you get a chance to visit, take a look at the beach hut techno-booths and make your way to the top floor for a panoramic view of the campus.

Our new academic space, the Fusion Building, is nearing completion and will open this September. Alongside 28 seminar rooms, three lecture theatres and catering facilities, our newest building will feature a roof-top terrace. Your students might be among the first to learn in one of these spaces.

You may also have heard about the plans for our Gateway Development in Bournemouth and Poole. These new developments will not only provide excellent facilities for our students, they'll also



be landmark buildings. The Bournemouth Gateway Building will be a new home for our Faculty of Health & Social Sciences, while the Poole Gateway Building will be a visual gateway to our Talbot Campus, providing a range of new facilities, including sound editing labs, media production spaces and areas where different faculties can collaborate.

We hope to welcome you to our campus soon, and we'd love to know what you think of our exciting campus developments. Many activities on the AspireBU programme include a campus tour, so join us for a BU Insight Day or HE Experience Day to take a look at our new buildings.

# UCAS Application **top tips**

It won't be long before your Year 13s are carefully crafting their personal statements for 2017 entry, so we want to pass on our advice for making applications stand out. Here are our top tips for applying for two of our subject areas.

## Law

For your students' Law applications to stand out from the crowd, we want to see a passion for the subject. We're particularly interested to hear about relevant work experience, whether that involves visiting courts, short placements with solicitors or experiencing other areas of law.

Alongside demonstrating an interest in law, there are also some specific attributes we'd like to see in personal statements. We want to know that students are interested in what's happening in the world, with a good knowledge of current affairs and politics. They should also be willing

to engage in more than just the taught elements of the course; we want students who will go above and beyond to really push themselves.

There are no particular subjects needed to study law with us, and your students don't need an A-level in law. If some of your younger students are choosing their options with a view to studying law at university, we'd recommend considering history, politics, psychology, social sciences or English literature, but these aren't essential.



## Games & Music Technology

For our Creative Technology courses, it's beneficial for students to have a good understanding of maths, or even better an A-level in the subject. Physics is also great for helping students get to grips with the topic. We want to see a real interest in the subject, so here are some ideas of how that can be demonstrated.



### **BSc (Hons) Games Technology**

#### **BSc (Hons) Games Programming**

Encourage your students to develop a grounding in programming, particularly in C++, which is the language of choice for the games industry.

We want to see a passion for games development, so producing a basic portfolio showcasing prior work would help an applicant to stand out. There are many free third-party game engines available, and you could encourage your students to produce and launch a game commercially using one of these platforms.

### **BSc (Hons) Music & Audio Technology**

#### **BSc (Hons) Music & Sound Production Technology**

If your students are considering applying for a music technology course, they need to show a passion for both music and technology. Many applicants will be studying Music Technology at school or college already, but if they're not then the personal statement is even more important.

We want to hear about your students' passion for music, which could include using software for composing, playing instruments or operating sound for live events. We're also interested to hear about their experience with technology, including computer programming experience, an understanding of synthesis or acoustics, or hardware building.



# Lucy's Festival of Design & Technology story



Final year BSc (Hons) Product Design student Lucy Edwards will be among many exhibiting at this year's Festival of Design & Technology. Design, Engineering and Creative Technology students will get the chance to unveil their projects to employers, the public, and design students of the future.

## “ My project

My final year project allows a pianist to turn a page of music without removing their hands from the keys. The pianist taps a pedal on the floor, sending a wireless signal to a box, which completes the page turn. I loved the idea that I could combine my love of design with my love of music.

## Why I love the festival

I think it's a great way to see the best Bournemouth University has to offer and there's a great atmosphere. By displaying my product at the exhibition, I get exposure to lots of businesses in a short period of time. Also, I think it's a great way to celebrate the completion (and survival) of the course with all my peers!

The best project I've seen was from last year's design show. Douglas Powell designed a bicycle ambulance trailer, which really focused on the humanistic issues surrounding Sub-Saharan Africa.

## My message to future Design and Engineering students

Be prepared for a lot of hard work, make the most of every opportunity (whether work or social), and go to the beach as much as possible! ”

We'd love to see you and your students at this year's festival, which is open 17-20 June 2016.

Find out more at  
[fodt.bournemouth.ac.uk](http://fodt.bournemouth.ac.uk)



# Celebrating our Mentoring Scheme

Five Bournemouth schools recently joined us to celebrate successful completion of our Mentoring Scheme. Alongside celebrating the pupils' achievements with certificates and seven special awards, the day gave pupils a chance to find out a bit more about university life.



**P**upils from the scheme were taken around our Talbot Campus by their mentors, and had a chance to look inside a student flat. The celebration included taster sessions in games design, sports and forensic sciences, and a guest speaker gave an inspiring talk about being your best self.

This year, we took our Mentoring Scheme to nine local schools, working with over 130 pupils to develop skills and confidence. Our student ambassadors ran workshops with students from Years 9 – 13 to help raise and support aspirations, offer impartial information, and act as role models. We've also piloted a tutoring programme, supporting pupils with maths, English and science.

Both mentors and participants have gained a lot from the scheme, with one pupil saying, "If mentoring had a Trip Advisor page, it would be five stars!"

The Mentoring Celebration was an opportunity to recognise just how much some of the pupils have developed. We're looking forward to hearing about their future achievements, whether in Higher Education or the world of work.

If you'd like to find out more about the Mentoring Scheme, please email [mentoring@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:mentoring@bournemouth.ac.uk)



# Supporting your students through **CLEARING**

With exam season in full swing, some of your students might be asking about alternative options if they don't quite meet their university offers, or haven't yet applied for Higher Education. They might also be thinking of using Adjustment if they do better than expected.

**C**learing might seem like a last minute rush, but it doesn't need to be. By encouraging your students to get prepared in advance, they'll feel less overwhelmed on the day.

Our Head of Admissions Karen Pichlmann says: "Choosing a place through Clearing is no different from choosing a university place full stop, only it takes place over a shorter period of time – so preparing your Plan B and thinking about where you want to go is key."

Universities usually publish their Clearing vacancies from early July, so students who already have their results may be able to use this to their advantage. By checking individual university websites, you can find out when they open for Clearing.

Keep an eye on our website for more information about Clearing, and look out for our Clearing Toolkit.

[www.bournemouth.ac.uk/clearing](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/clearing)

## Here are our Clearing top tips for your students:

- Consider alternative institutions and courses – make a shortlist before you get your results
- Ask questions! Find out about the course content, structure, placement opportunities, and anything else important
- When you've got your results, call institutions as they may be open early for Clearing
- Talk through your options with teachers or family
- See if universities have Clearing Open Days
- Ask about scholarships and bursaries
- Remember – it's not just about them choosing you, it's about you choosing them!

# The BU Work Experience Scheme

We've recently launched the BU Work Experience Scheme, so that your students can experience what it's like to work in a university. The scheme is aimed at students in Years 10 and 12, but if you're helping students in other year groups find work experience, we'll see what we can do.

Students could spend a week as a Sport and Recreation Assistant, Assistant CAD Technician or Archaeology Assistant. They could also gain that all important office experience by spending some time with us as an Admin Assistant. We're aiming to continue expanding the scheme further, so that more opportunities become available across BU.

All our work experience opportunities are advertised on the Education Business Partnership South West website, or you can contact us directly for more information.

EBP - SW subscribers can find out more at [www.ebp-sw.org](http://www.ebp-sw.org) or you can contact us at [BUworkexperience@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:BUworkexperience@bournemouth.ac.uk)



# BU on the rise

We've had a successful year in the Higher Education league tables, so we're delighted to announce our latest achievement. We've been included in the *Times Higher Education 150 Under 50*, showcasing the top universities under the age of 50 globally. There were more UK universities than any other nation, showing what a great place we're in for Higher Education options.

Earlier this year, we were included in the *Times Higher Education's* list of the 200 most international universities in the world, and we also entered the ranks of the top 500 universities in the world, in the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings*.

We're proud to have been recognised at an international level, and hope to share more successes with you in future years!



## Contact us

If you'd like to know more about what we can offer your school, college or academy, or if you'd like to join our mailing list then we'd love to hear from you.

**Tel:** 01202 963999  
[aspireBU@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:aspireBU@bournemouth.ac.uk)  
**[www.bournemouth.ac.uk/teachers](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/teachers)**

### AskBU Enquiry Team

For general course enquiries, please contact one of our AskBU advisers:

**Tel:** 01202 961916  
[askBUenquiries@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:askBUenquiries@bournemouth.ac.uk)



## Dates for your diary

### Undergraduate Open Days

Saturday 2 July 2016  
[www.bournemouth.ac.uk/open-days](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/open-days)

### Festival of Design & Technology

17 – 20 June 2016  
We're inviting groups from local schools and colleges to look around the exhibition, which features design and technology students' final year projects.  
[fodt.bournemouth.ac.uk](http://fodt.bournemouth.ac.uk)

### Festival of Learning

25 – 29 June 2016  
Students can take part in a range of hands-on taster sessions, interactive workshops and seminars.  
[www.bournemouth.ac.uk/fol](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/fol)

### Pizza Pop-ups

27 – 29 June 2016  
Part of our Festival of Learning, a series of talks for 14-19 year olds with free pizza. Register at  
[www.bournemouth.ac.uk/pizza-popups](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/pizza-popups)

### BU Summer Breaks

5 – 22 July 2016  
[www.bournemouth.ac.uk/summer](http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/summer)

### BFX Festival

10 – 16 October 2016  
Bournemouth's visual effects, animation and games festival.  
[www.bfxfestival.com](http://www.bfxfestival.com)