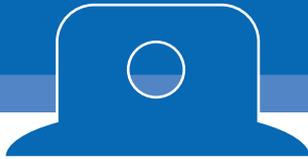




What is BrightMed?

BrightMed is Brighton and Sussex Medical School's widening participation programme, which aims to identify and support young people who have the potential to become tomorrow's doctors. The programme will increase participants' awareness of studying medicine and endeavours to raise their aspirations.

BrightMed delivers fun, inspiring and interactive teaching focused on medicine, health and science, as well as information, advice and guidance to help young people make informed decisions concerning their future education. It aims to provide them with the confidence to submit strong applications to study medicine at a UK medical school.



What does BrightMed do?

BrightMed works with young people from Year 9 through to Year 13, to assist with UCAS applications to UK medical schools by:

- providing insight into what it is like to be a medical student
- providing information, advice and guidance on how to make a confident application to study medicine
- demonstrating how competitive medicine can be, and encouraging participants to maintain academic ambition and extra-curricular activity throughout
- demonstrating the many careers that can be followed within medicine
- motivating and inspiring ambition and success in compulsory and post-16 education
- delivering sessions on transition to higher education and key skills for success
- encouraging further enquiry and reading on the part of the participants.



How is BrightMed structured?

BrightMed recruits approximately 80 young people in Year 8, to begin the programme in Year 9. Participants take part in regular Saturday sessions that involve knowledge sessions, activity days, lectures and seminars. There is also an opportunity for participants to stay at the University of Sussex campus during a residential summer school at the end of Year 12.

BrightMed participants undertake a total of 21 sessions as outlined below:

- **Years 9 and 10** – 5 days per year
- **Year 11** – 4 days
- **Year 12** – 4 days (plus 3-day residential)
- **Year 13** – informal support and drop-ins for final application advice and interview practice

Participants qualify for a **Guaranteed Interview** to study medicine at BSMS should they complete the programme.

NB: BrightMed is funded by Brighton and Sussex Medical School (and external partners). There is no cost to the participants or their families.

How are students selected?

BrightMed asks all schools to nominate a number of students in Years 8-11 who fulfil all of Criteria 1 and one or more of Criteria 2. Although we welcome applications from students who do not meet any of Criteria 2, offers will only be made if space permits.

Criteria 1

- Academic potential – Yr 7 CAT score average of 115+ (if taken), or part of the Gifted & Talented Cohort
- An interest in science and/or medicine and a desire to fulfil their potential.
- An interest in being part of BrightMed.

Criteria 2

- No immediate family history of higher education (excluding siblings).
- Currently in, or have been in, the care of a local authority.
- Care for someone at home with a long-term illness or disability.
- have a registered disability
- Are eligible for free school meals.
- Family eligible for any means-tested benefit.
- Likely to live in a low participation neighbourhood (POLAR4 data) or area of deprivation (IMD data)
- Receive Pupil Premium Funding

Students' commitment to BrightMed

It is important that all nominated students are aware of the significance that BSMS places on BrightMed.

All students must understand that BrightMed is a long-term programme and will require their full commitment. As such, all selected students will be asked to sign a code of conduct and will be required to meet retention criteria to progress through the programme at the end of each academic year.

Activity will take place on Saturdays and during school holidays – attendance will be one of the retention criteria that will need to be fulfilled.

Important information for 2019/20:

- The closing date for applications will be Friday 12 July 2019.
- Saturday sessions typically run from 10am–3pm but may occasionally overrun.
- Food is not provided on Saturday sessions.
- BrightMed 2019/20 Launch Day is **14 September 2019**.
- BrightMed Catch-up day (for those starting in Years 10, 11 & 12) will be **21 September 2019**



What next?

If you believe you have students who would be interested, please pass on the 'Information for Students' flyer to them and encourage their making an application on www.bsms.ac.uk/brightmed

Applications are open April–July 2019.

Contact details

If you have any questions about BrightMed, or would like to request more information for students and applications details, please get in touch:

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