

Hello,

I'm Ollie and I'm this year's MedSoc President. MedSoc oversees every society, sports team, social, and ball here at BSMS. We are essentially a Students' Union just for you. With our lifetime membership you can play for any of the BSMS sports team, join any of our societies, and you get discounts on social and ball tickets, meaning membership ends up paying for itself! We advertise all our events on social media so be sure to check them out in the links below. While MedSoc directly run many events, we also oversee 30+ BSMS societies. Each society runs several events throughout the year, and cover every aspect of medicine medical school life, from learning how to save someone who's fallen in a freezing lake, with our emergency medicine society EmSoc, to learning the harmony to a Bastille song with Choir. Our Paediatric Society, for example, hosts an annual conference and ball (which people attend from around the world!) as well as other events like quizzes and teaching sessions. These events are perfect for people who are interested in paediatrics, or just want to learn more about medicine!

On the other end of the spectrum, you have recreational societies, like the BSMS Medic Revue. This society runs an annual comedy show musical that is part of Brighton Fringe, and is written produced and performed by BSMS students. We are also proud to have a very active Islamic Society who run a great variety of events every year, including revision sessions, meals out, and many others. In conjunction with the University of Brighton, they raised over £11,000 during their charity week last year! We have a list of all of our societies on our website so read more about them there. If you think there's a society missing, then set one up yourself! New societies are constantly being made and MedSoc will give you all the support and resources you need to make it a success. BSMS Pakistani Society has just been set up this year, so keep an eye out for our newest society's events!

Now the normal MedSoc stuff is out of the way, I want to emphasise to any incoming freshers reading this that WE HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOU! Yes, things are different socially at BSMS right now, but MedSoc will be adapting to keep you all safe and still have fun. We've got socially distanced picnics, laser tag, scavenger hunts, cocktail nights, and if you don't want to go outside, loads of stuff you can join in with via Zoom! You will also be assigned Medic Parents from the year above who will be a point of contact for you to answer any questions you have about BSMS. They'll also host you on one of the nights of Fresher's Week.

Things are different now, but it won't be forever – we pledge that you will get the traditional BSMS Fresher's Week whenever that is safe and possible, even if it's in your fifth year of Med School.

MedSoc has so much to offer- COVID-19 or not. I want to be really clear that we will be doing everything we can to make your first year at BSMS memorable, and not just because of the pandemic.

Ollie Pentz  
MedSoc President 2020/21

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You can read more about MedSoc here - <https://bsmsmedsoc.co.uk/>

