Welcome

The Universities of Brighton and Sussex are immensely proud of how successfully our medical school has developed in its second decade.

Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) graduates are now developing successful careers across the UK. Many are well established in their chosen fields and there is a close relationship between the academic staff and students.

A career in medicine represents a unique opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of individual patients and their families and carers. Medicine is a profession that provides a multitude of varied career opportunities and at Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) we welcome students from diverse backgrounds who have the enthusiasm, dedication, compassion and commitment to become outstanding doctors.

BSMS offers a distinctive and innovative course that prepares its graduates to enter an ever-changing and developing world of healthcare. We are proud of the quality of our teaching, as reflected by our position as the top undergraduate medical school in the National Student Survey table 2017. Our graduates are among the best prepared for work upon qualification and are making their mark locally, nationally and internationally as their careers progress.

Our course incorporates early clinical contact with patients and carers, and interactions with healthcare professionals both in the hospital and community settings. This helps you build crucial interpersonal, team-working and communication skills and the essential knowledge underpinning clinical practice in medicine.

BSMS has a strong sense of community and there is a close relationship between our academic staff and students.

We work closely with our partner NHS hospitals, general practitioners and other providers, and our students are well received and supported in all of their placements. You will have an academic tutor and access to a student welfare advisor throughout your degree, reflecting our commitment to providing personal and academic support for our students.

BSMS is a partnership between the Universities of Brighton and Sussex and you will have access to the outstanding academic and recreational facilities of both universities. The two campuses are situated close together in a beautiful area just outside Brighton, a vibrant and diverse city on the south coast just an hour from London.

My own experience in medicine has been a privilege and highly rewarding. Being involved in a young and highly successful medical school gives me a great opportunity to help ensure that the next generation of doctors are prepared for a similarly fulfilling career in whatever branch of medicine they choose.

I hope we will see you undertaking your medical studies in Brighton in the coming years.

Professor Malcolm Reed
Dean of BSMS

What our students say

“Brighton is a really good place to be a student – it’s quirky with lots going on, and full of students. Having hospital and GP placements in the first term really helps you learn a lot about the medicine behind the consultation as well as how to interact with patients in a clinical context.”

Ollie Pentz, Year 1

“BSMS has a real sense of community – everyone knows everyone in their year by halfway through first year. One of the best things at the medical school is the full body cadaveric dissections from Year 1. These sessions allow you to view the 3D arrangements of the structures while nurturing your surgical skills.”

Patrick Tano, Year 3

“Fourth year is really interesting, as we get a snapshot of a vast range of sub-specialities and can develop our analytical skills through our Individual Research Projects. The transition to Phase 2 was made smoother due to the early clinical exposure we had through GP visits and secondary care placements where we were able to practice taking patients’ histories and conducting examinations.”

Ayesha Raheem, Year 4

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Beautiful campus

Your first two years will be based at the University of Brighton and University of Sussex campuses at Falmer, surrounded by the South Downs National Park but just nine minutes by train from bustling Brighton.
Learning anatomy at BSMS is an exciting fusion of laboratory-based traditional human cadaver dissection and prosection sessions with applied living anatomy and the latest live ultrasound sessions. At BSMS, we ensure that students not only have the core knowledge of the human body, but are effective at applying that knowledge in the diagnostic and surgical domains.

Dr Claire Smith, Head of Anatomy

Our five-year medical degree, awarded jointly by the Universities of Brighton and Sussex, leads to the qualification of Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (BM BS).

The course is designed to help you become a highly competent, strongly motivated doctor, committed to the highest standards of clinical practice, professionalism and patient care.

By the time you graduate, you will have developed the knowledge, professional and key personal skills and attitudes necessary to pursue a successful medical career.

Preparing you for medicine

How is the course organised?

Phase 1: Years 1–2

The academic year is organised into three terms of 10 weeks each, and about 25% of your learning at this stage will be clinically based. You will start to develop clinical skills in history taking, physical examination, diagnosis and effective communication with patients in a classroom setting and by gaining experience in hospitals and primary and third sector placements. You will also spend time with a family looking after a new baby (Year 1), and with a patient with dementia or a chronic health condition (Years 2 and 3).

You will study the normal and abnormal functioning of the human body using a system-based approach, with integrated modules covering the core biomedical and psychosocial sciences. Your anatomy study will include a hybrid of cadaveric dissection, prosection, living anatomy and ultrasound sessions and 3D printed structures where you will actively explore the human body and its relevance to clinical practice.

Student-Selected Components (SSCs) will allow you to undertake individual studies and explore selected topics in depth, informed by the latest research.

Apart from core lectures and symposia, most Year 1 and 2 classes are taught in small groups.

Phase 2: Years 3–4

Year 3

At the heart of Year 3 are three 10-week, ward-based attachments in Medicine, Surgery, and Elderly Medicine and Psychiatry. You will consolidate your increasing clinical experience with your understanding of the underlying clinical, social science and public health issues through weekly teaching sessions on the scientific basis of medicine. You will also gain further experience in safe prescribing of drugs, an essential skill for your medical career.

Student-Selected Components (SSCs) will deepen your understanding in an area of your choice from a variety of options covering research, clinical effectiveness and medical humanities.
Year 4
You will develop your skills in more specialised clinical areas, completing eight five-week rotations in the following:
- General Practice
- Musculoskeletal Medicine and Surgery
- Ophthalmology and ENT
- Infectious Diseases, HIV GUM and Health Protection
- Dermatology
- Neurology and Neurosurgery
- Oncology, Haematology and Palliative Care
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Paediatrics.

The clinical focus in Year 4 is understanding patients’ integrated care and how primary, community and secondary care structures work together for the patient. You will also complete an individual, year-long research project, which can be laboratory based or more directly patient focused.

Online learning
In Years 4 and 5 your learning will be supported by the online learning tool CAPSULE, a custom built app and website which provides you with E70 clinical case studies and more than 3,500 questions mapped to the medical curriculum. After completing a case, you will be provided with instant feedback to maximise your learning.

The intercalated degree
You may choose to undertake an intercalated degree between Years 3 and 4, allowing you to study an area of interest in greater depth. Intercalation means taking a year out of your normal medical curriculum to study for an extramural degree, which may be a BSc or a Masters degree. This will lengthen your studies by a year but provide you with rigorous training in research methods, and may allow you to publish your findings and attend scientific meetings and conferences.

The extra degree, research and publication will all add to your CV and make you more competitive for your next career step. You could intercalate at BSMS, the Universities of Sussex or Brighton or another UK university.

BSMS intercalated degrees
- Global Health MSc
- Medical Education MSc
- Public Health MSc
- Leadership and Commissioning MSc
- Dementia Studies MSc
- Cardiology MSc
- Medical Research MSc

Following your final examinations in April, you will undertake a four-week elective clinical period to experience healthcare in another environment in the UK or abroad. You will then undergo a Preparation for Practice module that will build on all you have done in the previous years so you will be well prepared for life as a foundation doctor.

After graduation
At the end of the undergraduate course you will receive your BM BS degree, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to provisional registration with the General Medical Council (GMC), subject only to its acceptance that there are no Fitness to Practise concerns that need consideration. Provisional registration is time limited to a maximum of three years and 30 days (1,125 days in total). After this time period your provisional registration will normally expire.

Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 programmes, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to provisional registration with the General Medical Council (GMC), subject only to its acceptance that there are no Fitness to Practise concerns that need consideration. Provisional registration is time limited to a maximum of three years and 30 days (1,125 days in total). After this time period your provisional registration will normally expire.

Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 programmes, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to provisional registration with the General Medical Council (GMC), subject only to its acceptance that there are no Fitness to Practise concerns that need consideration. Provisional registration is time limited to a maximum of three years and 30 days (1,125 days in total). After this time period your provisional registration will normally expire.

If this happens then UK graduates will receive full registration as soon as they have successfully completed a PMQ. It should be noted that it is very likely that UK graduates will still need to apply for a training programme similar to the current Foundation Programme and that places on this programme may not be guaranteed for every UK graduate.

The GMC is currently considering a formal assessment that UK medical graduates would need to pass in order to be granted registration with a licence to practise. Although no final decision has been taken as to whether or when such an exam will be introduced, applicants should be aware that the GMC envisages that future cohorts of medical students may need to pass parts of a medical licensing assessment before the GMC will grant them registration with a licence to practise.

### Key to table opposite
- Objective Structured Clinical Examination
- Knowledge Test. All exam events will take place in August except Year 5, which will take place in May.
- Please note: the curriculum outline for 2019 has not yet been finalised and may be subject to change. Check at bsms.ac.uk/undergraduate
At BSMS, our emphasis is on small group academic and clinical teaching. We help you develop into an excellent doctor by offering a range of teaching and learning methods, including cadaveric dissection and e-learning. We believe in supporting you with relevant technology and learning resources, so you can realise your potential.

Developing you as a doctor

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BSMS learning methods
BSMS has an integrated curriculum designed to develop your knowledge, academic and clinical skills. Our emphasis throughout the degree is on small group academic and clinical teaching, which allows you to further develop and apply your learning from lectures. Teaching methods include practical classes in our anatomy and biomedical science laboratories, seminars, guided individual study, clinical skills practice, technology-enhanced learning and clinical symposia.

Patient educators are involved in a wide range of our teaching, providing a unique patient-centred focus to your clinical training, and helping you gain a broad understanding of patients’ experiences and the implications of a range of health conditions and disabilities. Individual patient studies, in which you relate clinical findings and treatment to the underlying clinical and social sciences for your patient portfolio, develop your understanding of the practice of medicine. BSMS also has an extensive and very successful programme of teaching delivered by student tutors.

Throughout your training you will use an ePortfolio – this is an important part of your professional development that all doctors use throughout their careers.

"BSMS has a very friendly and family-like atmosphere, and there are loads of societies you can get involved with. Placements at various hospital departments and GP practices give you a fantastic way to learn more about different specialties and I’ve enjoyed the challenge of early patient contact."

Gabby Alexander-Harvey, Year 2

bsms.ac.uk/gabby-alexander-harvey

The highly supportive, close-knit community of staff and students at BSMS allows each individual to realise their own potential, within an ever-growing innovative teaching environment. Early clinical experience coupled with traditional teaching methods fully prepare students for the challenges posed by modern medicine. The dedication, support and enthusiasm of all those at BSMS allowed my knowledge and confidence to grow exponentially during my years of study, and I am certainly proud to be a graduate of BSMS.

Sarah Gomes, GP-trainee, Brighton, and BSMS graduate

bsms.ac.uk/gabby-alexander-harvey

bsms.ac.uk/gabby-alexander-harvey

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How will my progress be measured?

Formal and informal assessments occur throughout the course. There is a combination of written assessments including essays, short answer questions and single best answers. We will also test your communication and clinical skills through practical assessment methods such as OSCEs and student presentations.

Your professional development will be captured through assessments within the ePortfolio, including feedback from colleagues and staff and reflective writing. Regular meetings with your tutors ensure that you are given support to keep on track with the course.

Feedback
You will receive regular written and verbal feedback on your progress in the classroom and the clinical environment to help you define your strengths and areas for development. In Phase 1 you will be supported by an academic tutor and throughout Phases 2 and 3 your clinical academic tutor will help you define your personal development plan.

Digital resources

Today’s doctors need to be confident in the effective use of information technology. Your degree will include training in digital literacies, information management, electronic patient records and the principles of bioinformatics.

Our web-based virtual learning environment, StudentCentral, provides you with online access to digital learning resources and study support tools. This enables you to post presentations online along with lecture recordings and direct links to the online library system.

A wide range of digital learning resources, including videos, quizzes, interactive cases and case-based tutorials, are also provided. Use of mobile devices is encouraged to support learning, such as the CAPSULE clinical cases quiz app and an iPad anatomy interface in the dissection lab.

Virtual microscopy allows active evaluation of microscopic anatomy and pathology in lectures, helping provide a full perspective on a patient’s illness, and can be accessed for further study or revision through StudentCentral.

Along with other IT-based learning, MRI, CT and X-ray images are uploaded digitally from the Royal Sussex County Hospital and used in interactive sessions. All these methods are supported by regular tutorials.

All university campuses and hospital sites have computer clusters (most with Wi-Fi) providing connections to both the university and hospital networks, ensuring you are always in touch with your learning resources.

Knowledge, skills and attitudes

During your academic studies and clinical training you will gain knowledge and understanding of:

- the fundamental medical sciences
- the structure and function of the healthy human body and how it alters in disease
- pregnancy, childbirth, development and ageing
- the causes, patterns, treatments and outcomes of common acute and long-term medical conditions
- the principles of population and environmental health, including the wider determinants of health and the impact of health on society
- the principles of health promotion, disease prevention and therapy
- human relationships in the context of the family, community and culture in health and disease
- the organisation and provision of healthcare in the UK
- the ethical and legal responsibilities of doctors.

You will learn how to:

- take a detailed medical history
- identify the clinical signs of disease
- use a patient’s history and clinical examination to reach a diagnosis
- design an appropriate treatment plan, working with a multi-disciplinary team
- carry out specified clinical procedures with confidence
- deal safely with medical emergencies
- listen to, and work in partnership with, patients, relatives and carers across a range of organisational settings, in order to make shared decisions about the maintenance or improvement of the patient’s health
- make effective use of laboratory and other diagnostic services
- understand clinical pharmacology/therapeutics and prescribing.

You will develop:

- an understanding of your responsibility for lifelong self-education
- the habit of critically evaluating your professional performance
- an awareness of the need to involve patients and their relatives in decisions about their treatment and care
- the critical use of scientific evidence for medical practice
- a recognition of the need for you to work as part of an effective multi-professional team
- the judgement to recognise when you have reached the limits of your own knowledge or skills and need to seek assistance.
Making your mark

At BSMS, you will have the chance to join in with pioneering research and develop projects of your own. You could conduct your study at the local hospital or in a research lab, or use your elective placement to explore developments in medicine across the world – and you might even find your name in print.

Sarah El-Zahab, Year 5 student

BSMS offers students the great opportunity to undergo a research project in the specialty of their interest, especially through the Year 4 Individual Research Project (IRP). Working with leading researchers helps you develop practical and analytical research skills, deepening your knowledge in your field of interest.

Sarah El-Zahab, Year 5
Making a difference

At BSMS, we believe tomorrow’s doctors should be fully involved in shaping the future of healthcare through cutting-edge research. We provide you with up-to-date clinical evidence to inform your learning and decision making. We also encourage you to conduct research and present your findings in local, national and international meetings, as well as publish papers in medical journals.

From trialing new chemotherapy drugs to investigating genetic susceptibility to TB, our research has an international reputation. It aims to improve medical treatment, answer fundamental biomedical and clinical questions and deliver more personalised treatment, answer fundamental biomedical and clinical questions and deliver more personalised healthcare to patients.

Your participation in research

You could participate in research in your Student-Selected Components (SSCs) as early as Year 1. In Year 4, you will conduct research and present your findings in local, national and international meetings, as well as publish papers in medical journals.

Supporting your research

We provide you with up-to-date clinical evidence to inform your learning and decision making. We also encourage you to conduct research and present your findings in local, national and international meetings, as well as publish papers in medical journals.

Student successes in research

Amanda Ahmed’s comparative study into two types of induced labour was presented as an e-poster at the 29th European Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Turkey.

Peter Bannister received the Junior Research Associate Award from the University of Sussex to conduct research on the epidemiology of primary liver cancer in the elderly. The findings will be presented at the International Liver Congress in Paris. Peter also co-authored a book chapter on the epidemiology of cervical cancer.

Katherine Kirupakaran’s research into the stability of dopamine and dobutamine over 24 hours in simulated neonatal ward conditions was presented at the sixteenth Congress of European Academy of Paediatric Societies, Geneva, Switzerland, and the Congress of Joint European Neonatal Societies, Venice, Italy. It was published in Paediatric Drugs.

Chloe Knox presented her study into healthcare professionals’ perceptions of the challenges in providing adequate antenatal care to women using substances in pregnancy at the Fourth Contemporary Drug Problems Conference in Helsinki, Finland.

Alice Lagnado presented her research on the association between subjective wellbeing and depression at the 61st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for Social Medicine in Manchester and 10th European Public Health Conference in Stockholm.

Thomas Walton won best poster prize at the British Hip Society annual scientific meeting for his research into the effect of a dedicated hip fracture unit on the outcome of femoral fractures. He also gave an oral presentation at the ISKU Annual meeting for his research into the associations between childhood obesity and primary hip fracture.

Research in action

Two BSMS students discuss their own research interests, which they explored through their Individual Research Projects (IRPs) in Year 4.

Trisha Hughes

Trisha Hughes investigated the efficacy of Erythropoietin (EPO) on the production of myelin in the brain.

Firstly, they are a key component of the myelin structure and secondly they could be used as a source of cellular energy to fuel the production of myelin itself. This complex mechanism suggests that these genes could be potential targets for treatment of neurological conditions. These novel findings have helped to further the current understanding around the role of EPO in the production of myelin and have contributed to a wider study published in the journal Frontiers in Immunology. One day our work around EPO may even contribute to the development of new treatments for these disabling neurological conditions.

Anokhee Patel

Pilot Study to Investigate the Acceptability of the Pirate Adventure Autism Assessment Tool in Mainstream Typically Developing Children

I’ve always had a strong interest in paediatrics and prior to attending BSMS I worked closely with children with disabilities. So when I got the opportunity to work on developing a new app to assist in the diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) among children as my IRP, I jumped at the chance. Currently, the process for a child to undergo an ASD assessment is time consuming, expensive and has long waiting lists.

While we cannot ‘cure’ autism, it’s important that children are diagnosed in a timely manner so they get the support they need, both at school and at home.

My supervisors, Dr Ian Male and Dr Will Farr, developed the Lego pirate-themed iPad game, which allows clinicians to carry out an initial 10-minute screening for ASD, and could flag up children who might need further testing.

Children work through a number of questions in the pirate ‘story’ – each of these will test a particular area that may give a different response from a child with autism. So you might test the ability to read emotions or understand idioms by asking, “What does the treasure will cost an arm and a leg mean?”

Also there is evidence that children with ASD interact better with technology, so the FAD seemed like the perfect format to use, particularly as most kids are familiar with it.

I tested the app among 72 typically developing children in a primary school, to see how they responded to it and what could be improved. Overall the kids loved it, but I made a couple of suggestions for improvement, for example developing more female characters and different themes to make it more attractive to girls.

The app is now being copyrighted and we hope to launch it in the app store for use by clinicians in the near future.

INSPIRE is a national programme coordinated by the Academy of Medical Sciences and supported by the Wellcome Trust. Activities are designed to encourage medical students to gain experience in, and understanding of, research, and include support for:

- the student research network – to conduct collaborative research with faculty
- organising national/regional student conferences
- conference attendance and presentation of research findings.

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Health services
The universities’ medical centres provide medical care under the NHS and there is also access to a dentist and pharmacist. All students are required to register with a local GP, and information is provided to help you do so.

Personal counselling
The universities’ personal counselling services provide a safe, confidential environment to discuss concerns with qualified and experienced counsellors. These services are free to students.

Chaplaincies
Support and friendship are offered by the universities’ chaplaincies, which aim to help students – of any faith or none – to enjoy and enrich their time here. The chaplains organise group activities and worship, and can work with school colleagues and university services to help reduce any impact on your studies. They can also put you in touch with specialist support services if necessary.

Childcare facilities
Both university sites offer childcare provision. However, places cannot be guaranteed, and cribs and nursery applications should be made at an early stage. See brighton.ac.uk/childcare and sussex.ac.uk/childcare

Subdeans
Clinical subdeans are on hand at each training hospital to provide you with advice and guidance during your Year 5 clinical attachments away from the main medical school.

Student Support Team
Our student welfare advisors are dedicated, non-academic staff available in all years of study to talk about any personal problems that may affect you – emotional issues, financial difficulties, health problems and more. They offer confidential listening and advice, and can work with school colleagues and university services to help reduce any impact on your studies. They can also put you in touch with specialist support services if necessary.

Student representatives
Each year BSMS students elect student representatives. These are current students from all years who sit on key decision-making bodies to influence life at BSMS, and liaise with staff on behalf of their fellow students.

Academic tutors
Your academic tutor will be your academic advisor throughout your first two years, encouraging you to set your own learning goals and advising you on your academic progress. They will lead your weekly tutorials during term 1 and ensure that you develop the necessary study skills.

In Year 3 you will be allocated a clinical academic tutor who will provide ongoing academic support. They will help you talk through the difficult clinical and ethical issues that every aspiring doctor encounters, and support your academic progression into foundation training.

Support through teaching
Important skills such as self-reflection and stress management are covered as elements of the course. Useful workshops and external resources are made available via course information and announcements. Staff will be available to give further advice if necessary.

Medical support
Clinical subdeans are on hand at each training hospital to provide you with advice and guidance during your Year 5 clinical attachments away from the main medical school.

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What BSMS offers you

Early clinical experience
Our integrated degree combines academic knowledge and clinical experience from Year 1. Students visit GP surgeries or clinics in hospitals from the first week of the course. This builds your confidence and communication skills with patients and other healthcare staff.

Cadaveric dissection
Cadaveric dissection is a key part of the degree from Year 1, giving you a real understanding of human anatomy. This will enhance your learning experience, while developing professionalism, skills and respect for the anatomical donor.

BSMS students as researchers
Research features significantly in the curriculum to ensure your decision-making is informed by up-to-date clinical evidence. All Year 4 students take up an Individual Research Project, and we encourage students to participate in local, national and international research and publish where possible.

Small group sizes
BSMS students benefit from being taught in small groups. This allows for a close, friendly learning environment, where students really get to know staff and fellow students.

Very satisfied students
BSMS achieved a score of 99% student satisfaction in the 2017 National Student Survey, putting us in top place among UK medical schools.

The benefit of two universities in the same city
BSMS students are students of both the Universities of Brighton and Sussex and have equal access to the academic and recreational facilities of each. Both university campuses are next to one another at Falmer.

Entry requirements
A-levels: AAA including Biology and Chemistry.
For students with contextual data (page 36), we will consider AAB including Biology and Chemistry.
Scottish Highers: 370 points from 18 units with both Biology and Chemistry at minimum Advanced Higher A grade.
International Baccalaureate: 36 points with both Biology and Chemistry at minimum grade 6 at Higher level.
See page 36 for more details.
BSMS requires all UK/EU applicants to sit the BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT).
As a first-year medical student, you will be guaranteed accommodation at Falmer, where the medical school is based. However, you must make BSMS your first choice when confirming places with UCAS, and submit your application for university residences by the deadline in June/July 2019.

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The great thing about living in halls is living with other medics. This is really beneficial around exam time as you can plan revision sessions with your flatmates. There is also the chance to meet people on different courses, which makes a nice change.
— Farazi Virk, Year 1

Applying for accommodation
Halls of residence are provided by both the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex, and BSMS students are allocated evenly between the two universities. You should apply for halls via the University of Brighton Accommodation Office, whichever campus you prefer. They will send you information on how to apply during the academic year before you arrive at BSMS, including all relevant deadlines. The office can also help you find accommodation off-campus, if you would prefer (see opposite page).

For accommodation costs see ‘My finances’, page 33. For more information, visit brighton.ac.uk/living-here or contact +44 (0)1273 644100 or accommodation@brighton.ac.uk

Halls of residence at Falmer
At the University of Brighton, you will normally be placed in Paddock Field residences, where all rooms are en suite. Self-catered and catered options are available, and there is free off-peak gym membership. For more information, see brighton.ac.uk/halls/falmer or contact +44 (0)1273 644100.

At the University of Sussex, you will normally be placed in Lewes Court residences, where you can choose an en suite room or shared bathroom. For more information, see sussex.ac.uk/study/accommodation/on-campus or contact +44 (0)1273 678220.

Whichever residence you live in, at Falmer you will be part of a lively, stimulating and cosmopolitan student community, living alongside people from all over the world who are studying a wide range of subjects. Most accommodation is in single study bedrooms, and there are a few shared rooms and family flats (University of Sussex only), as well as housing designed for students with disabilities. All halls have internet access and contents insurance.

In Brighton you might prefer to live in a house or flat for your first year, and after Year 1 all students move off-campus. Brighton has several areas which are particularly popular with students and there is a wide range of rented accommodation available.

Help with finding a suitable place to live is available from the University of Brighton and University of Sussex accommodation services. They provide advice on house hunting and contracts, and you can search on their websites for housing from approved landlords and potential housemates. For information, see studenthomes.brighton.ac.uk or contact +44 (0)1273 644100 (Brighton) or sussex.ac.uk/study/accommodation/off-campus or contact +44 (0)1273 678220 (Sussex).

Clinical commitments
In Years 3, 4 and 5, hospital accommodation is provided for on-call duties, where required. During Year 5, you will undertake attachments at different regional hospitals. Accommodation is provided at those centres not easily reached from your Brighton base.

Catered and self-catered options are available, and all residences are provided with cooking facilities in communal kitchens. You can also buy anything from a sandwich to a three-course meal on campus, all at reasonable prices. Facilities at both universities are within easy reach, including:
- grocery shops
- catering outlets
- bar and cafes
- a launderette
- a newsagent
- a bookshop
- a bank
- libraries
- a post office
- sports facilities.

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Join the club

As a BSMS student, there are plenty of activities available for when you are not studying. With clubs and societies from two students’ unions, whatever your interests, there will be something for you.

These are a great way to get to know people outside your year group, and many societies have a thriving social programme alongside their main activities.

MedSoc

MedSoc caters for the vibrant and diverse student population at BSMS – something which we pride ourselves on. The society provides support for its sub-societies that allow students to get involved in life outside the curriculum, which is something BSMS encourages. You could get involved in one of our sports teams, a medical sub-specialty club or even a baking society! We also organise balls and social events throughout the year. We are the biggest society at both universities and are here to ensure you have the best time at medical school.

Harry Cross, Year 4
MedSoc President 2017–2018

MedSoc

At the centre of student social life is BSMS MedSoc. MedSoc works with both students’ unions to organise teams and social events specifically aimed at medical students, such as balls, cabarets, talks and charity marathons. You will have the opportunity to get involved with the Medsoc Revue, a sketch show written by BSMS students, which has a firm place in May’s Brighton Fringe Festival.

Medical societies can also get involved in organising national conferences with top speakers from across the UK. MedSoc works with both students’ unions to organise teams and social events.

Clubs and societies you could join include:

Societies
- Anaesthetics
- Anatomy
- Association for Medical Education and Clinical Skills
- BikeSoc
- Bouldering Society (RockSoc)
- BrightWChance
- Cardiology
- Choir
- Christian Medical Fellowship
- Elderly (GeriSoc)
- Emergency Medicine
- Friends of MSF
- GIP
- HIVE – HIV Education
- HOME – Homeless Medicine
- International Students
- Islam (Soc)
- Medical Ethics and Humanities
- Medical Leadership and Management
- Medical Research
- MedSin – global health
- Mixed Dance
- Neurology Society
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Oncology, Haematology and Palliative
- Ophthalmology
- Paediatrics
- Psychiatry
- Raising and Giving
- RunSoc
- Sleep
- Snow Sport
- Spectrum
- Sports and Exercise Medicine

MedSoc, the society puts on exciting events in the BSMS social calendar. Affiliated with Raising and Giving (RAG) plays a huge role in the BSMS social calendar. Affiliated with MedSoc, the society puts on exciting events to raise money for the year’s chosen charities.

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Other clubs and societies

Each university has its own student sports clubs, which benefit from Brighton’s seaside location. There are a range of student sports clubs that you can get involved with, including a number of watersports clubs, which benefit from Brighton’s seaside location.

Sports clubs

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Entertainment on your doorstep

Campus cafes, pubs and bars, each with their own individual atmospheres, are popular meeting places for evening socialising. Whether you want a fun night out, live sports on TV or a quiet coffee, you will find somewhere to suit your needs and your pocket. The students’ unions organise several major events during the year, including freshers’ and summer balls, and big name bands and DJs are regular visitors to the campus.

Sports

Whether you want to keep fit, dance or are into serious sport, there are excellent sports facilities at Falmer including:

- sports halls
- fitness rooms
- dance studios
- squash and tennis courts
- football and rugby pitches
- hoodlum artificial turf pitches
- sauna
- more than 50 exercise and movement classes per week
- Westbourn studio offering a sports injury clinic, massage, acupuncture and beauty therapy.

Above/opposite: As a BSMS student, there is plenty to get involved in. Raise some funds for charity through one of the fun events organised by the RAG team, or join a sports team, and there are, of course, the MedSoc societies

Other clubs and societies

Clubs and societies focusing on the performing arts are popular on both campuses. There are numerous choirs, choral societies, bands and orchestras, dance societies and drama clubs, catering for all tastes from the traditional to the experimental.

If you are creative, there’ll be something for you too, from life drawing to design, photography and creative writing. You might decide to test out your circus skills, improve your chess or learn how to make films. Or you can join a society to support a cause, such as Médecins sans Frontières, Amnesty International or humanitarian aid projects around the world.

To find out more about both students’ unions visit brightonssu.com (University of Brighton) and sussexssu.com (University of Sussex).

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Sports clubs

There are a range of student sports clubs that you can get involved with, including a number of watersports clubs, which benefit from Brighton’s seaside location.

Sports clubs provide coaching and instruction and take part in British Universities’ Sports Association (BUSA) competitions, as well as local Sussex leagues.

Both universities have a good record of success at competition level in a range of team and individual sports.

BSMS also has its own sports teams, enabling students to represent the school and continue playing sport throughout the demanding clinical years. The teams have very active calendars, and participate in a range of leagues. Teams include:

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Football – men’s
- Football – women’s
- Hockey
- Netball
- Rugby
- Squash
- Tennis,

Above/opposite: As a BSMS student, there is plenty to get involved in. Raise some funds for charity through one of the fun events organised by the RAG team, or join a sports team, and there are, of course, the MedSoc societies.
Arts, culture and events
Brighton has a rich, dynamic cultural life and the city attracts many of the best internationally recognised artists and performers. Brighton Dome, the Theatre Royal, the Old Market and many smaller venues provide a wonderful diversity of live entertainment including pre-London productions and fringe theatre. There are two multiscreen cinemas as well as the Duke of York's and Duke's at Komedia, which show art-house films.

The city boasts an impressive number of museums and galleries, including the Brighton Pavilion, Brighton Museum and Art Gallery and Hove Museum and Art Gallery. There are also numerous exhibitions at smaller venues, and specialist museums devoted to subjects such as fishing, toys and penny slot machines.

The November fireworks and the Burning of the Clocks solstice parade keep the pace going through the winter, while in August the Pride festival attracts visitors from around the country. The highlight of the city’s cultural year is May’s Brighton Festival. England’s brightest and biggest arts festival showcases every kind of art and performance, while the Fringe offers a range of exciting events all over the city, many of them free.

Pubs and clubs
Brighton has a reputation as the clubbing capital of the South Coast and there are dozens of clubs to choose from, whatever music you’re into. Big-name DJs are attracted to the scene and many London clubs bring specialist nights down to the seaside.

Shoppers’ paradise
The only question is where to start! There’s everything here. All the familiar high street names are gathered under one roof in the Churchill Square shopping complex, while the North Laine area buzzes with independent shops selling everything from leather goods, old records and vintage clothes to vegan shoes and wholefoods.

Exploring the winding streets of the Lanes, you’ll find antique shops, jewellers, second-hand bookstalls and exclusive fashion outlets. As you walk along the seafront, you’ll pass all the beachfront artists’ studios, and there are also weekend car boot sales, arts and craft shows, street traders and seaside markets.

Eating out
With more than 400 cafés and restaurants to choose from, Brighton caters for all tastes and budgets: Mexican, Chinese, Greek, Japanese, Indian, vegetarian, vegan, fish and chips, and more.

The North Laine area, which is very popular with students, is full of relaxed cafés and bars. When all the shopping gets too much, you can treat yourself to an all-day breakfast, relax with the papers over a coffee or head to one of the many pubs for a Sunday roast.

Later on, you might head out to one of the city’s multitude of eateries for dinner, or stop in at an all-night café for a post-club snack.

In Brighton, the energy of the arts and cultural events, restaurants, shopping and clubs is balanced by the relaxed vibe, and you’ll find you can really be yourself. The campus is surrounded by the beautiful Sussex countryside with its historic villages, hiking trails and range of events, offering something for all. All this and just an hour from London.

In my opinion Brighton is one of the best places to study in the UK. The liberal and accepting environment allows people to integrate easily, whoever they are. There is never a shortage of things to do in and around the city, and with fantastic rail connections London is only an hour away giving you unlimited access to the whole country!

James Willans, Year 4

Well placed
BSMS is based over two campuses at Falmer, just four miles from central Brighton. You can easily get to the centre of Brighton by train (nine minutes), bus (20 minutes), bike (20 minutes) or car (10 minutes). In Years 3 and 4 your studies will be based around the Royal Sussex County Hospital in Kemp Town, Brighton.
Music for all

Brighton is a city of music – up-and-coming bands fill the smaller venues nightly, and you can catch national and international acts at the Brighton Centre, while the Dome hosts a range of contemporary, world and classical concerts. The world famous Glyndebourne Opera House is just a few miles away.

In summer, Brighton entertainment moves outside, with concerts and mini festivals in the city’s many parks, or you might catch the next big thing busking in the city’s streets.

Get active

In addition to the excellent sport facilities on campus (page 23), there are plenty of opportunities to get active in Brighton and Hove: swimming pools, golf courses, martial arts, yoga and dance classes where you can learn anything from salsa to swing dancing. You can play basketball, volleyball or pétanque on the seafront, or skate along the promenade.

Out and about in Sussex there are historic towns such as Lewes, Chichester and Arundel, abbeys and castles, vineyards and cider farms, vintage cars and steam trains, lakes and rivers. You can walk, cycle or horse ride along peaceful lanes and trails, or, if you are looking for adventure, you can mountain bike, kayak, windsurf or paraglide.

Further afield

For a day or evening in the capital, London is just over an hour’s journey away. Heading abroad? There’s easy access to Gatwick Airport (25 minutes from Brighton), Heathrow Airport (two hours by coach), several south coast ports serving continental Europe, and the Channel Tunnel.

The beach and water sports

Brighton and Hove’s seaside location means there are ample opportunities to get involved in water sports, including windsurfing, sailing, diving, kitesurfing and paddle boarding. The sea is perfect for a summer dip, and afterwards you can join friends for a BBQ on the beach.

The countryside

When you need a break from the bustle of the city, all you have to do is step off campus. The beautiful South Downs, offering picturesque villages, miles of mountain bike trails and country walks, including the South Downs Way, are literally minutes away from Falmer and easily accessible from Brighton.

Brighton and Sussex
Dissections, general practice, seminars and dodgeball, Mahdi Murtaza writes about a week in Year 1

Monday
First thing we have an anatomy lecture, which is always fascinating. The BSMS anatomy course is great, because it links different aspects of the curriculum together; it also ties in to the Dissection Room (DR) sessions, which I’ll talk about a bit later (Thursday, if you really want to know). Monday tends to be a fairly busy day; after lectures, we break into smaller module tutorial groups for group work. This normally relates to what we’ve been studying earlier on in the day, and acts as an excellent consolidator. Afterwards, I go home unwind and relax for a little while – I play a lot of basketball, so I go to the gym and have a shoot-around. In the evening, I head to the library and work for a bit.

Tuesday
At BSMS, for four days a week we have more science-based lectures on the University of Sussex campus, but Tuesday is a little different as it’s our clinical day. It’s particularly enjoyable because we’re on the Brighton campus, which is a grand total of three minutes from my flat by foot. We start off with a lecture on professionalism and interprofessional relationships, after which we break up into smaller groups with a number of pharmacy and social care students – it’s a very interesting way to begin to appreciate just how valuable all the different members of the NHS are, and how they each contribute in their own meaningful way.

The great thing about clinical practice days is that in the afternoon we get to go out on placements to a variety of healthcare settings which, as a first year, is pretty cool. Today I’m off to Haywards Heath for my GP placement. So that pretty much takes up my day until about 6pm. Free not, though, there’s still a lot to do – as a BSMS student, one of the perks which, as a first year, is pretty cool. Today I’m off to Haywards Heath for my GP placement. So that pretty much takes up my day until about 6pm. Free not, though, there’s still a lot to do – as a BSMS student, one of the perks of BSMS is that it’s an excellent way to meet students from other years at BSMS and allow you to take on responsibilities for organising events, among various other roles.

Wednesday
Wednesday mornings are a particular favourite of mine, as we have group meetings with our academic tutors. My tutor always loves to recapping the material we’ve been taught so I spend these free hours in the morning about essay writing, a necessary skill to have, which, as a first year, is surprisingly easy to pick up once you get here. Then we have a lecture on molecular cell biology, but after that, we’re essentially free. The medical school likes to keep Wednesday afternoons empty for sports fixtures and, as an avid basketball player, that means that I’m free to train for our upcoming matches.

Thursday
In the morning, we have a symposium on imaging the human body. The symposiums are similar to lectures, but they tend to be slightly longer and cover material in greater depth. It’s very helpful as it allows us to understand anatomy from a different aspect and ties in very well with the DR session later in the day. BSMS is one of the few medical schools that does cadaveric dissection, so it’s a privilege, really. It reinforces our knowledge of the human body and is very helpful in learning anatomy. It’s also a unique experience unlike any other, and it gives appreciation to the intricacies of anatomy in physical practice.

Afterwards, I go to the gym and have a shoot-around. In the evening, I head to the library and work for a bit.

Friday
Finally, it’s Friday. Our first lecture is at 11am so I spend these free hours in the morning recapping the material we’ve been taught so far in the week. After lectures, I head to a Psychiatry Society meeting in the afternoon. The societies at BSMS are good fun and they work very well to complement our studies, providing a lot of super-curricular material. They are an excellent way to meet students from other years at BSMS and allow you to take on responsibilities for organising events, among various other roles.

Life here is never monotonous. There is always time to try new things and meet new people. Ultimately, while I’m at medical school to become a doctor, I’m also here to become a more well-rounded person and I find that new experiences and a varied weekly schedule definitely helps with that. In the evening I catch up with friends for a movie and bowling – it’s very sociable here so you can always find something going on.

Year 1 Timetable (a typical week)

| Monday | 9-10am | Lectures and tutorial
|        | 10am-1pm | Lectures
| Tuesday | 9-10am | Clinical practice lecture
|         | 10am-1pm | Small group work with clinical practice facilitators
|         | 1pm-2pm | Primary care placement/secondary care placement/clinical skills workshop/personal study
| Wednesday | 9-10am | Student-Supervised Component (at the universities, hospital or other venue)
|         | 10am-1pm | Free time for study and/or extra curricular activities such as sport
| Thursday | 9-10am | Symposium – eg patients come in to discuss how they have been affected by their condition and/or facilitated breakout sessions
|         | 10am-1pm | Practical class: the dissecting room
| Friday  | 9-10am | Lectures
|         | 10am-1pm | Practical class: the laboratory

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**Monday**

Today I am at the 9am ear nose and throat (ENT) clinic at the Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) in Haywards Heath, setting in with one of the ENT registrars. I observe the doctor taking the history and examining the patients. I get to practise my clinical skills as well, examining the ear using the otoscope – this is a new skill for me and so I’m a bit nervous at first. I also get to observe the use of a flexible nasal endoscope, noticing how the doctor communicates with patients to put them at ease.

I meet my friend for lunch in the hospital restaurant where we chat about our weekend and what we’re doing in the afternoon. In the afternoon I’m in theatre. I arrive at 1.30pm and get changed into scrubs. I see a tonsillectomy for a patient with recurrent tonsillitis, as well as the fitting of a bone-anchored hearing aid. This is very interesting surgery to watch and between patients the doctor asks me questions and teaches me about the relevant anatomy.

At 4pm I head back to the room to have a coffee and to discuss potential differential diagnoses and management plans.

**Tuesday**

My day starts with ENT teaching at 10.30am (a rare lie in – hurrah!) and I’m at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, where we’re being taught how to perform the relevant clinical skills in more detail: this involves neck examination and more practice examining the ear using an otoscope. It is really useful to have 1:1 clinical teaching with such an experienced ENT consultant and it’s always fun to practice our clinical skills on each other!

In the afternoon I’m in clinic with one of the consultants. This time I feel much more confident using the otoscope and examining the ear following my teaching in the morning, and I’m able to visualise the normal ear drum as well as spot any abnormalities.

**Wednesday**

Today I am at PRH again for theatres in the afternoon. In the afternoon I have time off for personal study so I learn about medications commonly used in ENT. Afterwards I test myself using the app CAPSULE. The app was developed by BSMS and is really useful to work through clinical cases and answer the associated questions.

Then I head to the gym, then do some more work on my research project and relax with my housemates.

**Thursday**

At 5pm I head to the library to meet a group of medical students in my year and an A&E registrar. I’m part of a group called the Wellness Medic, who are passionate about promoting healthcare professionals’ and students’ own wellbeing. As part of this we are organising talks, wellbeing retreats, supper clubs, yoga and meditation sessions. Our first talk is the following evening so we are agreeing the final details. We have a very productive meeting and are all very excited about the event.

**Friday**

Fridays are dedicated to our Individual Research Project. I meet with my supervisor at the Children’s Hospital. My project is looking at staff child protection training in the hospital. I’m developing a questionnaire to send out to staff and then analysing the results, and producing a 3,000–5,000 word research paper. We are hoping to get the research published in an academic journal and present at conferences.

Afterwards I head to the gym, then do some more work on my research project and relax with my housemates.

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**ENT, surgery, the Wellness Medic and a GP clinic. Rhiannon Hoggins writes about a week in Year 4**

Rhiannon Hoggins, Year 4
Money can be a concern when going to university. At BSMS, both school and university staff have help and advice to offer.

Fees for students starting the BM BS undergraduate medical degree in 2018 are £9,250 per year for UK and EU students.

Channel Islands and Isle of Man students will pay £110,000 per year, and in subsequent years fees may rise with inflation, capped at 5% per year.

Fees for international students are £30,450 per year, and in subsequent years fees may rise with inflation, capped at 5% per year.

Range of statutory financial support
To assist new full-time home (UK/EU) students studying for their first degree, a range of financial support is provided by the UK Government.

• You can apply for a Tuition Fee Loan to cover your tuition fees in full, which you only start to pay back when you are earning over a certain threshold currently £21,000 if resident in England or Wales, £17,775 if resident in Northern Ireland or Scotland.

• If you are a UK Home student, you can apply for a means-tested Maintenance Loan to help towards living costs such as food and rent.

• If you are a parent or a carer, other means-tested financial support is also available, including a Parents’ Learning Allowance and a Childcare Grant.

If you are Scottish, Welsh or from Northern Ireland, you will be offered a different package of support; please refer to the relevant funding bodies (the Student Awards Agency for Scotland saas.gov.uk, Student Finance Wales studentfinancewales.co.uk or Student Finance Northern Ireland studentfinanceni.co.uk).

In 2018, EU students may be eligible for similar support to UK students, but there may be differences depending on your circumstances. This will be established by your relevant residency funding body. Funding has not yet been agreed for EU students entering university in 2019.

For more details of student finance loans, see: gov.uk/student-finance

University of Sussex First-Generation Scholars
The University of Sussex First-Generation Scholars Scheme provides financial support to students from lower-income households. Eligible UK students starting in 2018/2019 will be entitled to the following in addition to any UK Government support:

• Year 1 – £2,000 cash bursary

• Year 2, 3 and 4 – a £1,000 cash bursary in each year

• Year 5 of medical study – the NHS Bursary scheme currently replaces financial support from the First-Generation Scholars Scheme.

Care leavers are eligible for the Care Leavers Award rather than the First-Generation Scholars Award. See: bsms.ac.uk/fees-and-funding

BSMS students are not eligible for the University of Brighton bursary.

Eligibility
You must qualify for a ‘Home’ (UK) fee status, be joining undergraduate full-time courses from the academic year 2019/20 onwards, and have a household income level validated by Student Finance England as under £42,875.

Students studying for a second undergraduate degree or equivalent are also eligible for the First-Generation Scholars Scheme, provided their household income is below £42,875.

Application procedure
Your eligibility for the First-Generation Scholars Scheme will be assessed by the University of Brighton when you complete your application for student finance: gov.uk/student-finance

Please ensure that you have ticked the box authorising the sharing of income information to enable the university to make this assessment.

For further information, please contact

Brighton.ac.uk

NHS Bursary
From the fifth year of study, you may be eligible for an NHS Bursary, in place of your government funding. This may include:

• support with tuition fees

• grants towards living costs

• additional help, depending on your circumstances (eg. Dependents’ Allowance).

For further information see: nhbsa.nhs.uk

Students with a previous degree
Students who already have a degree or equivalent qualification (including study undertaken abroad) may find funding difficult for the BM BS medical degree. You will not have access to a Tuition Fee or Maintenance Loan, and there may be fewer options for additional funding. Before you begin your studies, you should make sure that you have adequate funds to cover your living costs and tuition fees for the duration of your course. The following additional options may be helpful.

• You may be eligible for the University of Sussex First-Generation Scholars scheme (see left); and from your fifth year of study (including study undertaken abroad) to cover tuition fees and maintenance costs.

• The universities and external charitable organisations are, at times, able to make additional support available specifically for graduate students (such as tuition fee discounts or hardship loans/grants), subject to eligibility.

• Many graduate students choose to work to support themselves through the degree.

Living costs
Depending on your lifestyle, you may spend the following on rent.

University halls: £129–167 per week (£5,301–6,515 per year, based on 2017/18 figures) depending on type of accommodation, and whether you choose catered or non catered. Costs include electricity, heating, water rates and the internet. If you are in catered halls you will also need to budget for the cost of food at weekends and during holidays.

Private accommodation: Average £110–145 per week (£5,720–7,540 per year, based on 2017/18 figures), visit yourstudentpad.co.uk to see typical costs for Brighton and Hove. Rents for private accommodation do not include utility bills, food or insurance unless otherwise stated in your contract. Contracts are generally for six or 12 months.

For other expenses you are likely to incur, please see: brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/fees-and-finance/budgeting-for-student-life

You should add the one-off costs of buying a stethoscope (approx. £50) and travel, accommodation and living expenses for your fifth-year clinical elective – these costs will vary depending on where you choose to go. A number of bursaries are available to support electives.

A rough guide is to have a minimum of about £3,000 available for the September to June academic year, including vacations, plus tuition fees.

An NUS Extra card will get you discounts in many shops, cinemas, museums and galleries, and on national and local bus and train travel.

Paid work while studying
At BSMS we provide opportunities for our students to earn money where we can. Students are paid to assist with admissions and open days, for example, and other jobs are available from time to time.

The careers services of both the universities are experiencing in helping students find part-time or vacation work, whether on campus or in the local area. From the first year onwards, it is anticipated that the demands of the course will be incompatible with paid employment during term time. Due to term lengths, it becomes increasingly difficult to rely on work as an income source in the latter years of the degree.

Advice and additional funding
The BSMS Student Welfare Team and the University of Brighton Student Advice Service offer information and advice on additional sources of funding, money management and debt counselling. For more information on fees and funding, please see: brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/fees-and-finance

For the latest information on tuition fees, scholarships and bursaries for 2019 entry, please see: bsms.ac.uk/fees-and-funding

Useful information

For the latest information on tuition fees, scholarships and bursaries for 2019 entry, please see: bsms.ac.uk/fees-and-funding

Please see page 34.
BSMS offers international students the opportunity to study at a young, friendly medical school with an outstanding reputation, in the vibrant city of Brighton at the foot of the beautiful South Downs National Park.

Why study at BSMS?
At BSMS, we combine proven, traditional methods with the latest innovations in teaching and research. As a student at the medical school, you will work alongside an enthusiastic faculty dedicated to excellence in teaching and breaking the boundaries of medical research.

You will soon get to know everyone in your year, and you will receive personal attention from your tutors and small group teaching to ensure you get the best education possible.

Admissions
You need to apply through UCAS, the UK’s central application processing organisation, by 15 October 2018 to enter BSMS in September 2019. On occasion, we may accept applications after the UCAS deadline; please enquire by emailing medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk.

Personal statements will be used to assess international applications. They should not merely list activities and attributes but clearly demonstrate why these enhance your application. You should reflect on your experiences to show insight and understanding.

Personal statements will be available during the interview process. See page 36 for the attributions we are seeking in our students.

You are welcome to attend a summer open day to tour the campuses, and chat to students and staff. Invited for an interview, you should aim to attend this at BSMS, although a limited number of video-link interviews may be available.

Qualifications
All applicants must have or be about to achieve qualifications that are equivalent to our standard A-level offer (AAA – to include Biology and Chemistry) and must have grades 6 or 5 in GCSE Maths and English (or an equivalent). To check if any qualifications you have already obtained are acceptable please email medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk.

English language requirements
International students must hold a qualification in English language received within three years of their BSMS enrolment date.

IELTS: 7.0 overall and not less than 7.0 in each of the four sections.

For a full list of acceptable qualifications, including English language qualifications, please go to bsms.ac.uk/international-entry-requirements.

Finance
You need to ensure that you have the means to cover the cost of your fees and other expenses for the whole five years before you begin your course. Financial help is available from the universities. Details are liable to change and application deadlines vary, but as a guide, the University of Brighton offers around 50 international scholarships based primarily on merit.

These are currently worth a £5,000 tuition fee reduction for new, full-time entrants.

For up-to-date information, please check brighton.ac.uk/international or email international@brighton.ac.uk.

You will be sent further details about how to access financial help once you have firmly accepted the offer of a place at BSMS.

Support
BSMS and the University of Brighton provide an array of student support, academically and socially, and the university has a dedicated international office to advise those coming from abroad. Information ranging from immigration procedures to helpful tips about UK culture is available on the university’s website, so that you will feel well prepared when you arrive. The first weeks of term will be full of opportunities to meet local and international students from the two universities, through parties, walks, shows, balls and much more, organised by the international support offices.

You will meet your academic tutor and the student welfare advisors, who will be your first points of contact if you experience any difficulties settling in. You will get to know your way around BSMS and have time to explore the campuses and Brighton.

International students’ societies at both universities provide a supportive environment to help you integrate into student life in the UK. They are open to all nationalities and, together with the universities’ international support offices, they arrange a diverse range of events during the year. See pages 16 and 17 for more details on student support.

Applying to BSMS
If you have any questions about your application, please email medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk or call +44 (0)1273 643528.

You can apply online using the UCAS website:ucas.com/international.
We are looking not only for academic ability but also for the personal qualities that people need and expect in a good doctor.

It is important that applicants are able to demonstrate that they can construct a clear argument and present it using a good level of written English; this can be evidenced in Section 3. We believe that the BMAT allows applicants to put themselves in the spotlight; if you have the ability and talent to succeed in medicine, then the BMAT gives you the perfect opportunity to show us, regardless of your background. We score the BMAT out of 28.9 marks for Section 1, 9 marks for Section 2 and 5 marks for each element of Section 3. We then rank all applicants according to their total score out of 28 and work down the rankings to fill our interview places. For 2018 entry, contextual data applicants who scored 12.5 or higher and other applicants who scored 16.3 or higher were invited for interview (the cut-off score varies each year). To help you prepare for the test, BMAT has produced a number of useful resources including guides to the content of the test and past test papers, which we recommend you access. BMAT may also be used as a final discriminator if needed after interview. Please refer to the BMAT website for key dates and additional information.

Eligibility will be identified by BSMS Admissions.

A Sussex-based Access to Medicine course is offered at Sussex Downs College, Lewes, developed in partnership with BSMS. This course offers a guaranteed interview with us. The curriculum includes Biology to A-level standard, Chemistry to above AS-level standard and a range of subsidiary subjects including Health Psychology, Medical Ethics, Mathematics, Physics, Methodology and Research. For details visit sussexdms.ac.uk/adult-learning/progress-to-higher-ed or call 01203 890000.

Fitness to practise

We welcome a diverse range of applicants reflecting the whole of society. Potential applicants with a disability are encouraged to discuss the reasonable adjustments that they would require to complete the course with a disability advisor prior to application.

Eligibility is self-declared and evidence submitted via the BSMS website bsms.ac.uk/accessibility.
Your application must be submitted through the UCAS system (ucas.ac.uk). This allows a maximum of four applications to UK medical schools. Applications must reach UCAS by 15 October 2018.

UK/EU students
We expect to have 193 places for new UK/EU entrants, in September 2019.

UCAS institution code name: BSMS
UCAS institution code: B74
Course code: A100

Steps in the BSMS admissions cycle

Step 1 Registration for the BMAT opens from early September 2018, and standard entry closes in early October. The last registration is 5pm (BST) on 15 October 2018; however late fees will apply. The BMAT takes place in early November 2018.

Step 2 Submit your application to UCAS by 15 October 2018.

Step 3 Our admissions office review applications. Qualifying applications which are flagged with contextual data are ranked according to their BMAT results, with the top ranking candidates invited to interview. BSMS aims to offer 30% of its interviews to candidates with contextual data flags. All remaining applications are then ranked according to their BMAT results, with the highest ranking candidates invited to interview.

Step 4 Multiple mini interviews (MMIs) are held during BSMS admissions days, which we aim to hold in December and January.

Step 5 MMI results will be considered by the admissions board. The admissions board decides which candidates receive offers.

Step 6 Offers are made to successful candidates. Candidates choose to accept offers.

Step 7 Qualification results are confirmed in August. Candidates whose offers match their results are confirmed.

International students
We expect to have 10 places for new international (non-UK/EU) entrants, in September 2019.

UCAS institution code name: BSMS
UCAS institution code: B74
Course code: A100

Steps in the BSMS admissions cycle

Step 1 Submit your application to UCAS by 15 October 2018.

Step 2 Qualifying applications are ranked according to their academic score and the content of their personal statement. The admissions board will then select candidates with a high ranking to attend an interview.

Step 3 Interviews are held during BSMS admissions days, which we aim to hold in February and March.

Step 4 Interview feedback will be considered by the admissions board. The admissions board decides which candidates receive offers.

Step 5 Offers are made to successful candidates. Candidates choose to accept offers.

Step 6 Qualification results are confirmed in August. Candidates whose offers match their results are confirmed.

Open days
The BSMS open days will take place alongside the University of Sussex open days on Saturday 9 June and Saturday 29 September. These will give you the opportunity to look around, meet students and staff and ask questions.

If you are unable to attend an open day, we will also be holding smaller meet and greet afternoons from 2pm to 4pm on Wednesday 21 February, Friday 16 March, Wednesday 11 April and Wednesday 16 May.

For confirmation of dates, further details and to book online, please visit bsms.ac.uk/open-days

Coming to interview
The admissions day programme consists of:
• an interview
• multiple mini interviews (MMIs)
• a student-guided tour of the Falmer campuses (including accommodation).

Parents or friends are welcome to attend the campus tour, but are not permitted to sit in on the MMI or in the waiting room.

Interviews and other activities take place throughout the day and may run as late as 6pm.

More information and a video of a sample MMI are available at bsms.ac.uk/admissions-days

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Getting here

Distance from BSMS:
Central London (Victoria Station): 53 miles / 1 hr 35 min drive / 1 hr 20 min train
Gatwick Airport: 28 miles / 35 min drive / 45 min train
Heathrow Airport: 64 miles / 1 hr 05 min drive / 2 hr 05 min train
Central Brighton: 4 miles / 15 min drive / 6 min train

If you can’t find the answer you need, please contact:
BSMS Admissions Registry, Checkland Building, Falmer Campus, University of Brighton
BN1 9PH
T +44 (0)1273 643528
medadmissions@bsms.ac.uk
Facebook: BSMSMedSchool
Twitter: @BSMSMedSchool

Useful websites
Brighton and Sussex Medical School: bsms.ac.uk
University of Brighton: brighton.ac.uk
University of Sussex: sussex.ac.uk
Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust: bsuh.nhs.uk
General Medical Council: gmc-uk.org

January 2018
Brighton and Sussex Medical School makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all information in this prospectus. However, at the time of going to press some finer points of curriculum planning and other school procedures remain under development. Any further developments will be shown on the medical school’s website: bsms.ac.uk

In accepting any offer of a place you consent to incorporation of this notice as a term of contract between you and BSMS. All students are required to abide by the regulations of the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex, which are available on request.

Open day dates
Saturday 9 June, Saturday 29 September 2018. These dates may change, please see the website for details.

Application deadline
15 October 2018

For more information visit the website at bsms.ac.uk

This prospectus is also available as a pdf at bsms.ac.uk/our-prospectus, and a larger printout is available upon request.

Imagery supplied by James Lewis, Clinical Media Centre, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust; Andy Weekes; Sorcha Bridge; Matt Bemment; Julie Wilton; University of Sussex; University of Brighton.

Printed using inks made from vegetable-based oils. Both the paper mill and printer are certified to the environmental management standard ISO 14001.
I like the sense of community at BSMS – everyone is keen to help, peers as well as faculty. So if you ever feel out your depth there is always support available. The first two years gave me the foundation knowledge to be able to enter the clinical environment, apply that knowledge and build upon it.

Patrick Tano Year 3 (front cover)
bsms.ac.uk/patrick-tano

The clinical experience from week one is incredible. It not only reminded me why I went into medicine in the first place but also set me up fantastically for Phase 2. I now love being on the wards; talking to patients while learning hands on how to carry out different procedures is the most rewarding way to learn.

Abigail Jamieson, Year 3 (below)
bsms.ac.uk/abigail-jamieson