head

and heart

Undergraduate prospectus 2021
A medical school that belongs to not one but two universities. At BSMS, that’s not the only way we offer tomorrow’s doctors the best of both...

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 general practice and others are now working as consultants in our hospitals.

The medical school’s research reputation has also developed significantly. In areas such as biomedical science, neuroscience, global health and infection, we are looking to make a rapid and real difference to people’s quality of life.

We are committed to high academic and professional standards, as well as to meeting the needs of students as individuals. We welcome you in considering BSMS.

Professor Debra Humphris
Vice-Chancellor,
University of Brighton

Professor Adam Tickell
Vice-Chancellor,
University of Sussex

A career in medicine represents a unique opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of individual patients and their families and carers.

At 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 school’s consistent position among the top medical schools in the National Student Survey.

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

BSMS has a strong sense of community and there is a close relationship between our 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 their placements.

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.

My own experience in medicine has been highly rewarding. Being involved in a young and highly successful medical school gives me the 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

The student’s diary

21 A week in the life...

Life at BSMS

> 26 Join the club

< 24 A home from home

> 28 Out and about

Useful information

< 36 What qualifications do you need?

> 34 Fees and funding

^ 12 Developing you as a doctor

> 18 Our research reputation

Medicine at BSMS

< 06 Preparing you for medicine

Did you know

We have places available for 203 students

Music at BSMS

< 06 Preparing you for medicine

^ 12 Developing you as a doctor

> 18 Our research reputation

A medical school that belongs to not one but two universities. At BSMS, that’s not the only way we offer tomorrow’s doctors the best of both...
Who you are
A caring individual who shares our commitment to providing outstanding and compassionate healthcare.

Who we are
A young, diverse and innovative medical school with a real sense of community.

What we can offer
If you’re looking for modern medical training that stretches you to your limits and supports you to push beyond them, allows you to relax in rural tranquillity and to experience the adrenaline rush of early clinical experience, look no further than BSMS.

BMAT
In year of application
AAA
A-levels (including Biology & Chemistry)
201 students started with BSMS in 2019, of those 177 are from the UK, 16 from elsewhere within the EU and 8 are international.

AAB
Widening participation (including Biology & Chemistry)
28% of our UK students meet our widening participation criteria.

36 pts
Total in the International Baccalaureate (including Biology & Chemistry)
52% of our UK students came straight from school or college (or had a gap year). 39% are graduates and 8% completed an Access to Medicine course.

BMAT
AAA
A-levels (including Biology & Chemistry)
201 students started with BSMS in 2019, of those 177 are from the UK, 16 from elsewhere within the EU and 8 are international.

AAB
Widening participation (including Biology & Chemistry)
28% of our UK students meet our widening participation criteria.

36 pts
Total in the International Baccalaureate (including Biology & Chemistry)
52% of our UK students came straight from school or college (or had a gap year). 39% are graduates and 8% completed an Access to Medicine course.

Early clinical experience
You will have placements in hospitals and GP surgeries from week two, building your confidence and communication skills with patients and healthcare professionals.

Cadaveric dissection
Cadaveric dissection is a key part of the course, giving you a real understanding of human anatomy, along with prospecion, living anatomy, ultrasound sessions and use of 3D printed structures.

Two university partners
As a student of both the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex, you will benefit from access to the academic and recreational facilities of both.

Systems-based approach
A seamless approach to learning where you will take a bodily system, such as the circulatory system, and learn all relevant anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology, pathology and clinical skills.

New teaching hospital
The Royal Sussex County Hospital redevelopment, costing £485 million, will provide outstanding learning facilities. Phase 1 is due for completion by January 2021.

A real community
90% of our students feel part of a community of staff and students. We are a friendly school and know that healthy, happy students make good doctors.

*NSS survey results 2019
Medicine at BSMS

Preparing you for medicine

Developing you as a doctor

Our research reputation
Preparing you for medicine

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.

Professor 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.

How is the course organised?

Years 1 and 2
You will study the normal and abnormal functioning of the human body using a systems-based approach, with integrated modules covering the core biomedical and psychosocial sciences.

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 primary, secondary and community care placements.

For example, you may 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).

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

Your anatomy study will explore the human body and its relevance to clinical practice. This will include a combination of cadaveric dissection, prosection, living anatomy, ultrasound sessions, virtual and augmented reality.

Year 3
At the heart of Year 3 are ward-based attachments including Acute Medicine, General Medicine and Cardiology; Elderly Medicine and Psychiatry; and Surgery, including Perioperative Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Orthopaedics and Urology.

You will consolidate your increasing clinical experience with an 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. Our award-winning Time for Dementia programme continues through Year 3.

Preparing you for medicine
Year 4
You will develop your skills in more specialised clinical areas, completing rotations that include:
- General Practice
- Ophthalmology and ENT
- Infectious Diseases, HIV GUM and Health Protection
- Dermatology/Rheumatology
- Neurology and Neurosurgery
- Oncology, Haematology and Palliative Care
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Paediatrics.

The clinical focus in Year 4 is on understanding patients’ integrated care and how primary, community and secondary care structures work together for the patient. You will also participate in Time for Autism and complete a year-long Individual Research Project, supervised by a university or hospital team.

The intercalated degree
You may choose to take a year out of your medical degree study after Year 3 to undertake an intercalated degree, which may be a BSc or a Masters degree, at BSMS or another university.

This will 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.

Please note, intercalation numbers are capped at 40% of the total cohort, with priority given to those without a prior degree.

From high-quality, research-based teaching to clinical experience, BSMS is a great mix of both worlds. The medical school not only helps us to become the best healthcare professionals we can, but also allows us to grow as individuals to thrive in any clinical or non-clinical challenging situation.

Imran Mian, Year 1

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

Year 5
Year 5 provides intense clinical and professional preparation for your foundation years. Throughout the year, you will develop your clinical skills through direct patient contact on clinical placements, and by using clinical skills laboratories and simulators.

Your learning will be based on a close involvement with routine clinical cases, acting as a member of the clinical team in medicine, emergency medicine, elderly medicine, surgery, general practice and psychiatry. Central to your study will be the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of patients in these different areas of practice.

Apprenticeship
You will spend the rest of the year undertaking an ‘apprenticeship’. This will involve being part of clinical teams at a range of regional locations, working closely with junior doctors and undergoing a Preparation for Practice module.

Electives
Towards the end of Year 5, you will undertake an elective period to gain clinical experience in another environment in the UK or abroad. Previous placement locations have included St Lucia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Nepal, the US and Malawi.

Medical Licensing Assessment
The General Medical Council (GMC) is introducing a Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA).

The MLA demonstrates that anyone obtaining registration with a licence to practise medicine in the UK has met a common threshold for safe practice. To obtain a Primary Medical Qualification (PMQ), graduates from 2024 onwards will need to have a degree that includes a pass in both parts of the MLA. One part will be an Applied Knowledge Test (AKT), set by the GMC and held at your medical school.

The other will be an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), which fulfils the GMC’s requirement for a Clinical and Professional Skills Assessment (CPSA). This assessment must meet GMC-set quality assurance requirements.

The MLA will test what doctors are likely to encounter in early practice and what’s essential for safe practice. The MLA is not intended to cover the whole of a medical school curriculum, so you will also need to meet your university’s degree requirements.

You can find out more about the MLA for UK students at gmc-uk.org/mla

Did you know
We still use human cadavers as part of our anatomy teaching

In high-quality, research-based teaching to clinical experience, BSMS is a great mix of both worlds. The medical school not only helps us to become the best healthcare professionals we can, but also allows us to grow as individuals to thrive in any clinical or non-clinical challenging situation.

Imran Mian, Year 1

From high-quality, research-based teaching to clinical experience, BSMS is a great mix of both worlds. The medical school not only helps us to become the best healthcare professionals we can, but also allows us to grow as individuals to thrive in any clinical or non-clinical challenging situation.

Imran Mian, Year 1
Seminars allow students to discuss lecture topics in greater depth.

Successful completion of the Foundation Year One programme is normally achieved within 12 months and is marked by the award of a Certificate of Experience. You will then be eligible to apply for full registration with the GMC. You need full registration with a licence to practise for unsupervised medical practice in the NHS or private practice in the UK. There is some discussion about whether to remove provisional registration for newly qualified doctors. If this happens then UK graduates will receive full registration as soon as they have successfully completed a medical degree. 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. Although this information is currently correct, students need to be aware that regulations in this area may change from time to time.

Key to table:
1KT: Knowledge Test, 2OSCE: Objective Structured Clinical Examination, 3AKT: Applied Knowledge Test, 4P4P: Preparation for Practice

Please note: the curriculum outline for 2021 has not yet been finalised and may be subject to change. Check at bsms.ac.uk/undergraduate

BSMS curriculum outline
Developing you as a doctor

At BSMS, our systems-based curriculum offers a range of teaching and learning methods, including early clinical experience, cadaveric dissection and e-learning. We believe in supporting you with relevant technology and learning resources, so you can realise your potential.

“From seeing patients in clinics and in the hospital to having patient educators come to the medical school to role play has really built my confidence to communicate with patients and their families. Having these opportunities to interact with different patients in a variety of situations has really helped me prepare for becoming an F1 next year.”

Anahita Shahmiri Moghaddam Araghi, Year 5

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.

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

Learning from patients
Patient educators provide a unique patient-centred focus to your clinical training, helping you gain a broad understanding of patients' experiences and the implications of a range of health conditions and disabilities.

In Years 2 and 3 you will take part in the award-winning Time for Dementia programme, where you will have contact with a family affected by dementia over a two-year period. In Year 4 you will have regular contact with a family affected by autism in our new programme Time for Autism.

Did you know
We came second among medical schools for overall student satisfaction in the National Student Survey (NSS) 2019

BSMS really stands out as a medical school: with its early clinical practice, cadaveric dissection and systems-based approach to learning. I have met amazing people here, not just from my cohort but also in other years. You have everything you need in Brighton: the beautiful beach, great shops and a relaxing, fun city.

Youssef Hassan, Year 3, international student from Kuwait
Measuring your progress

Formal and informal assessments occur throughout the course. Along with written assessments, we will 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 your ePortfolio, including feedback from colleagues and staff and reflective writing.

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. Regular contact with your personal tutor will help keep you on track with the course.

In Years 4 and 5 you will take part in simulated GP surgeries with detailed feedback, and in Year 5 you will be given a mock video OSCE that will help you prepare for final examinations.

Facilities and resources

In Years 1 and 2 your studies will be based primarily at both Brighton and Sussex university campuses, using purpose-built teaching facilities including clinical skills teaching rooms, a new state-of-the-art anatomy suite and clinical science laboratories, along with libraries on both sites.

From Year 3 you will be based in Brighton at the Royal Sussex County Hospital and the Audrey Emerton Building, and across other sites in East and West Sussex (see map on inner back cover).

The Audrey Emerton Building provides comprehensive learning facilities, including a fully stocked medical library, a clinical skills training area and teaching rooms.

Digital resources

Our web-based virtual learning environment, StudentCentral, will provide you with online access to digital learning resources and study support tools. A wide range of other digital learning resources, including videos, quizzes, interactive cases and case-based tutorials, are also available.

MRI, CT and X-ray images are uploaded digitally from the hospital for interactive sessions, and virtual microscopy allows you to study microscopic anatomy and pathology in lectures and at home.

CAPSULE

In Years 3–5 your learning will be supported by the online learning tool CAPSULE, a custom-built app and website which provides 670 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.
Support

Medicine is a demanding course physically, intellectually and emotionally, and BSMS offers a wide range of support to help you during your time here.

Student support team
Our student welfare advisors are dedicated, non-academic staff available in all years of study to talk to about any personal problems you face – welfare 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 the impact of any problems on your study. They can also put you in touch with specialist support services if necessary.

Professional guidance
You will have a personal tutor, who will be your academic advisor throughout your time at BSMS, encouraging you to set your own learning goals and advising you on your academic progress. 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.

Designated clinical staff are on hand at each training hospital to provide you with advice and guidance during clinical attachments away from the medical school.

Disability and learning support
For students with disabilities, long-term physical or mental health issues, or specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia, services are available for advice, guidance and academic or personal support. This might include individual support tutors, assistive facilities and reasonable adjustments to teaching and assessment. To find out more, contact disability@brighton.ac.uk

Medic families
Before you join us, you will be assigned a medic family – this will include ‘siblings’ (other first years), ‘parents’ (in Year 2), and even ‘grandparents’! They will be in touch before you start, and will help you settle in once you’re here. Many of our students find their ‘families’ a great source of friendship and support at BSMS, and look forward to having their own ‘children’ in Year 2.

International students
International students’ societies at both universities provide a supportive environment to help you integrate into student life in the UK. The universities’ international support offices arrange a diverse range of events during the year.

Other support
A wide range of other support is available to our students including counselling, financial advice, student representatives, chaplaincies, health services and onsite childcare provision. For more information, contact studentsupport@bsms.ac.uk

For most of my first year, I was in a wheelchair, on crutches or had my leg in cast. BSMS provided me with taxis to placements as well as a foot stool and rest breaks during exams and dissections to ensure that I’d be comfortable enough to concentrate. The brilliant student support service always have their door open, and can help you set up a learning support plan to provide adjustments and support specific to your needs.

Aimee Rolph, Year 2

The spiral curriculum we have at BSMS is very beneficial to our learning. It means that what I learnt previously is now being covered again, except this time we are applying the knowledge to patients, in a clinical context. I have loved my time at BSMS so far, and the preparation this course has given me makes me both excited and confident about my future as a doctor.

Dan Tebbs, Year 4

Did you know
Current BSMS students come from 44 countries
From mapping neglected tropical diseases to cutting-edge neuroscience, our research has an international reputation. It aims to improve medical treatment, answer fundamental biomedical and clinical questions and deliver more personalised healthcare to patients.

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.

Facilities
Our state-of-the-art research facilities and resources include:
- tissue culture labs and containment labs for working with infectious materials
- advanced microscopy and flow cytometry facilities
- the Clinical Imaging Sciences Centre houses 1.5 and 3 Tesla MRI scanners and a 64-slice PET CT scanner, for research in neuroscience and oncology, and diagnostic scanning
- the Clinical Investigation and Research Unit carries out clinical studies in physiology and therapy.

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 a research project under the supervision of a faculty member, joining teams in laboratories, hospitals or the community. You might choose to investigate biomedical sciences or epidemiology, or assess clinical and community interventions, and may have the chance to present your findings in national and international meetings, or to publish papers in medical journals.

You will graduate with enhanced teamwork, research methodology, technical and project management skills.

BSMS INSPIRE Programme
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.

Student success in research
Year 5 student Robyn Stocks discusses her recent Individual Research Project (IRP) and the opportunities it has provided.

For my IRP, I studied mechanisms in chronic pain conditions under the supervision of Dr Jessica Eccles, NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Psychiatry, MQ Versus Arthritis Fellow, and her team. Mechanisms underlying different disease presentations are something I have always found hugely interesting. This led me to focus my research on exploring how the nervous and inflammatory systems interact to produce symptoms in the chronic pain conditions fibromyalgia and myalgic encephalitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS).

Mechanisms in fibromyalgia and ME/CFS are poorly understood and thought to overlap. Previous research has demonstrated hyperactivity of the autonomic nervous system (ANS), increased sensitivity to pain and inflammatory disturbance in both syndromes. Our research built on this by investigating whether pain sensitivity and ANS hyperactivity are influenced by an inflammatory challenge, which was achieved by giving study participants a typhoid vaccination.

Preliminary results indicated a relationship between baseline fatigue severity and ANS hyperactivity induced by the inflammatory challenge. Data collection has since been completed, and I am looking forward to analysing and writing up the final results!

Understanding the mechanisms in these conditions is critical for guiding future research into potential drug therapies, which may improve quality of life and symptom control for patients with these chronic pain conditions.

Through this project, I had the opportunity to present my research internationally at the American Psychosomatic Society’s annual general meeting in Vancouver, receiving the MD Travel Award for my abstract. I was additionally awarded the Luke Fernandes Award for best clinical rheumatology presentation at BSMS’s IRP conference, as well as the Medico-Chirurgical Society Gold Award for overall IRP performance.

It was a novel and exciting experience to be part of a research team, and I enjoyed learning new skills in statistical analysis and experimental design. This has given me a good foundation for pursuing a career in academic medicine, and I hope to continue participating in research alongside clinical work!
A week in the life...

Azeezat Sanusi
Year 1
- Pathology, community nursing, yoga and dissection

Ollie Pentz
Year 3
- Emergency medicine, virtual reality, football and drama

Mohamed Mansoor
Year 5
- Cannulation, wound stitching, ambulances and rugby

and now
Monday lectures are mainly focused on the human body, including subjects like pathology, human physiology and anatomy. I find these very interesting as they relate to many things that I learned in my first degree in nursing. Having seen a lot of pathological conditions as a nurse, the lectures give me more understanding of these conditions at the microscopic level.

In the afternoon, we break into smaller groups for seminars. Today we have pathology, and we get to see different histology slides digitally and learn how to identify the pathological cell/tissue. These sessions also allow me to have more direct contact with the lecturers and to ask questions on any previous lectures that I didn't understand too well.

In the evening, I go to the gym with my flatmates and enjoy dinner with them. Afterwards, we make some revision flashcards. It's really nice living with fellow medical students as we can study together. My flatmates are biomedical science graduates and they help me a lot with any of the scientific topics I struggle with.

---

**Year 1 timetable**

*a typical week*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>am</strong> Lectures</td>
<td><strong>am</strong> Clinical practice lecture</td>
<td><strong>am</strong> Academic skills/Student-Selected Component</td>
<td><strong>am</strong> Symposium – eg, patients come in to discuss how they have been affected by their condition and/or facilitated breakout sessions</td>
<td><strong>am</strong> Lectures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>pm</strong> Lectures/seminars</td>
<td><strong>pm</strong> Small group work with clinical practice facilitators</td>
<td><strong>pm</strong> Free time for study and/or extracurricular activities such as sport</td>
<td><strong>pm</strong> Practical class: the dissection room (DR)</td>
<td><strong>pm</strong> Practical class: the laboratory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Draft timetable for 2021*
**Wednesday**

In the morning, we have a group meeting with our individual academic tutors – sometimes these are individualised so that we can personally discuss our individual academic progress and challenges. These meetings help us with scientific essay writing, numeracy and presentation skills. I do a presentation on the treatment and management of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) to my tutor group. Researching on this topic has made me more informed on the latest research on COPD management and presenting helps my confidence in public speaking.

Despite our busy workload, BSMS believes that it is vital for us to engage in social activities outside of study, so we have Wednesday afternoons off for extracurricular activities. I go for a run with friends, then go to the gym. I spend the evening relaxing and going through my dissection room (DR) notes for the session the next day.

**Thursday**

In the morning, we have a symposium on health and disease. Symposiums are like long lectures where we get to discuss various topics in greater depth, and sometimes patients are invited to talk to us about their condition and management. Today’s is on the diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (CLL), and we have the opportunity to meet a few patients living with CLL and ask them personal questions regarding the condition. At lunch I have a quick anatomy quiz with my friends in preparation for the DR.

BSMS was one of my top choice medical schools because of their early patient contact programme and the dissection component of anatomy learning. The DR sessions allow us to visualise everything we learn in the anatomy lectures on a real human body and thereby help us to understand our notes in greater depth. I am ever so thankful to the amazing people who have donated their bodies for our learning.

On Thursday evening, I go to yoga. At BSMS, you can join many societies, activities and sports at both universities. I’m a member of the Afro Caribbean society, the Islamic society, women’s rugby, dance society, table tennis society and the feminist society.

**Friday**

Finally, the last day of the week! We have a mix of lectures including one on the psychology of aging.

In the afternoon, I have a practical session on microbiology, where we stain different bacteria and assess their morphology. As a nurse, I took blood cultures from patients and sent them to microbiology, but I never knew much about how the actual blood culture is done in the lab and how antibiotics sensitivity is identified. The microbiology session has enlightened me on these!

In the evening I head out for dinner with friends.
Monday
This week I’m on placement in the Royal Sussex County Hospital’s Acute Medical Unit (AMU). At 8am I join the ward round led by the consultant, with a few F1s and me in tow. We discuss each patient beforehand and I get the patients’ drug charts and notes before we see them. Sometimes the doctors let me write a few things in the notes (under heavy supervision) or take a medical history from the patient. We finish at about midday and I go home for lunch, which like lots of third years, is just across the road from the hospital. In the afternoon, I am attached to the on-call team. We attend medical emergencies which I observe and, when things aren’t as chaotic, I take histories from interesting patients.

Tuesday
Like Monday, I start the day with a ward round, but in the afternoon, I go to a respiratory outpatients clinic instead. For each patient the consultant explains what they have come in for and goes through the underlying medicine behind their condition. The quality of teaching is great as you have one-on-one time with the doctor. In the evening I read online about the medical problems I encountered during the clinic and try to learn all the important information.

Wednesday
I meet some of my friends for coffee before our only full day of lectures. These typically start at 9am which is sadly a late start by third/uni standards! We learn about the scientific basis of medicine, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics, as well as general clinical practice. It’s nice to see the rest of my year as during the rest of the week we are spread out across the different hospitals and specialties in the trust. In the evening I go to a special Emergency Medicine Society event. It’s a training session in virtual reality where you manage an acutely ill patient using the headset and controllers. BSMS are always looking for the most up-to-date and effective ways of teaching so it is very exciting to try this out and see what’s next for medical education. I then get a lift from a friend up to Brighton campus where I have a game for the BSMS men’s football team, of which I am one of the captains. The team plays twice a week and is funded by the medical school, and players are BSMS students from first to fifth year.

Thursday
We attend medical emergencies which I observe and, when things aren’t as chaotic, I take histories from interesting patients.”
**Thur sday**
I have Thursday morning off this week! I usually spend my mornings off catching up on sleep from all the early starts during the week, doing admin for my different society roles or just playing video games to relax.

In the afternoon we have module teaching. I’m on the general medicine rotation, which means I have lectures on different conditions patients come in with and the associated pharmacology. How we’re taught in third year is very different compared with first and second year because it’s very much based on what you will be seeing on your placements. This makes all the teaching relevant to you and comes in handy straight away.

**Friday**
This morning I have a session with my Clinical Fellow. These fortnightly sessions involve the Clinical Fellow teaching you about whatever you want. It’s invaluable learning as you can fill holes in your knowledge and go over specific skills before trying them on patients. We have a few more lectures in the afternoon – this week we have one on medical ethics. It’s interesting because our lectures are not just about diseases and how to cure them, but also include social, ethical and practical issues that are relevant to medicine.

Once the lectures are over, I go home and make some dinner, then have a writing session for the Medic Revue. It’s a yearly comedy show which is part of the Brighton Fringe festival in May, and is entirely written, acted and produced by BSMS students. I meet with the committee twice a week to work on the script. Afterwards, I go to football training and then finish the week off with a MedSoc social at one of Brighton’s many clubs.

“How we’re taught in third year is very different compared with first and second year because it’s very much based on what you will be seeing on your placements. This makes all the teaching relevant to you and comes in handy straight away.”

---

**Mohamed Mansoor**
Monday
I'm currently on a four-week placement in A&E at the Royal Sussex County Hospital – it's a hectic but exciting environment. Morning sessions begin at 8.30am, and we start the week having a discussion with our clinical teaching fellow about what each of us needs to complete this week, which might include clerking patients, practising our examinations or the blue skills book. The blue skills book is a GMC requirement that includes all the skills we are required to have completed by the end of fifth year, so everyone is always eager to finish that as soon as possible.

We then split up into two groups and either follow along with the teaching fellow presenting cases or go to resus and observe or help out in minors. Today I'm clerking patients, which is always good practice, and I manage to see some interesting cases surrounding atypical presentations of a heart attack and shoulder dislocations. In the evening I go to the library to look up all the presentations of a heart attack and shoulder dislocations. In the evening I go to the library to look up all the cases I've seen during the day as I've found that to be the best way to learn.

Tuesday
We have our whole group seminars in the morning. Each week is a different specialty, and a few students present cases they have seen that past week and teach a little. I present a case on rheumatoid arthritis. We then have two lectures on the diagnosis and management of certain conditions. Today is all about patients presenting with breathing problems and all the different ways this can manifest from a pulmonary embolism to pneumonia.

It's a good day to see everyone who is in your rotation group and to catch up with friends. The afternoon is free and I use that time to get on with my study. In the evening I unwind and have dinner with my flatmates.

Wednesday
Our teaching fellow has a plan to teach us about different wound closures, which is a skill we need to get signed off for on this placement. We spend a few hours learning the different methods of closing wounds including stitches, steristrips and glue and how to administer local anaesthetic. This seems quite daunting at first but the teaching fellow shows us a neat trick that made it quite easy. Over in minors we meet a woman with a wound on her knee – I'm able to practise my new wound closure skills stitching this up.

In the evening, I have rugby training – I've been playing for BSMS since I was in first year and would recommend joining a medical school sports team. It's been a great way for me to make friends, stay fit and above all is very relaxed and fits around a medic's lifestyle.

Thursday
As part of our A&E placement, we spend a few shifts with the ambulance crew. It's an early start today, as the shift starts at 6.30. I join a crew for the day, going out with an ambulance, observing what the paramedics do and how they respond to calls. Although we're not expected to do anything, when you can lend a helping hand, especially during a cardiac arrest call, it's always welcome.

We attend five calls in my eight-hour shift ranging from the elderly with breathing problems to transporting the hospitals to cardiac arrest calls. It is a tiring but amazing experience! It really helps to get a joined-up view of the patient journey, and to see first-hand what takes place before people get to A&E. I'm shattered after my early start so take it easy in the evening.

Friday
I spend my morning improving my blood-taking and cannulation skills. As junior doctors we will be expected to do these things at times and you can never be too good! Luckily A&E is the perfect place to practise these skills. I also work on improving my prescribing skills. The medical school has given us a list of drugs we need to prescribe so it's a good chance to use these in a clinical environment.

In the evening I head into Brighton with friends to see a show at the comedy club Komedia. As an international student (from Canada), I've really enjoyed my time here. Brighton has all the charm of a small town but the variety of a big city.
“BSMS was one of my top choice medical schools because of their early patient contact programme and the dissection component of anatomy learning.”

Azeezat Sanusi
Year 1

“For each patient the consultant explains what they have come in for and goes through the underlying medicine behind their condition. The quality of teaching is great as you have one-on-one time with the doctor.”

Ollie Pentz
Year 3

“As an international student (from Canada), I’ve really enjoyed my time here. Brighton has all the charm of a small town but the variety of a big city.”

Mohamed Mansoor
Year 5
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 2021.

Halls of residence
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. BSMS students are allocated evenly between halls of residence at the University of Brighton and the University of Sussex. All residences have communal kitchens, internet and contents insurance.

University of Brighton campus
You will normally be placed in Paddock Field residences, where all rooms are single and en-suite. Self-catered and catered options are available, and there is free off-peak gym membership.

University of Sussex campus
You will normally be placed in either Lewes Court residences (with either an en-suite room or shared bathroom) or Park Village (shared bathrooms).

Applying for accommodation
You should apply for halls via the University of Brighton Accommodation Office, whether you would prefer a room at Brighton or Sussex. They will send you information on how to apply during the academic year before you arrive at BSMS, including all relevant deadlines. For accommodation costs see ‘Fees and funding’, page 34.

Living in halls is so convenient as lectures are a short walk away and it’s so easy to get to clinical placements by the bus routes. The communal areas are perfect to chill out with friends and there are social hubs around the halls that have events on like quiz and food nights!

Beth Daire,
Year 1

Living in halls really takes the edge off the daunting task of starting and settling into university. Having other people from our course that are going through the exact same things, both good and bad, really makes it a special experience for all of us.

Palwasha Najeep,
Year 1

Life on campus
You can buy anything from a sandwich to a three-course meal on campus. Other facilities include shops, libraries, a laundrette, a bank, an arts centre, a post office and sports centres.

Campus cafes, pubs and bars are popular meeting places for evening socialising, whether you want a fun night out, live sports on TV or a quiet coffee.

In Brighton
You might prefer to live in a house or flat for your first year. Brighton has a number of areas which are popular with students and there is a wide range of rented accommodation available.

From Year 2, all students move off campus (unless there are exceptional needs). Help with finding a suitable place to live is available from both universities’ accommodation services.

Clinical commitments
In Years 3, 4 and 5 you will undertake attachments at different regional hospitals and within other clinical settings. Placement travel costs will be reimbursed and accommodation provided in accordance with our student travel and accommodation policy.
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
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. Depending on your interest, you may have the opportunity to get involved with the Medc Revue, a BSMS sketch show in May’s Brighton Fringe Festival, or even arrange a national medical conference with top speakers from across the UK.

There are more than 30 BSMS societies, ranging from Anaesthetics to BakeSoc, Raising and Giving (RAG) to Medical Ethics, and Choir to Sexpression. See the MedSoc website for a list of all current societies: bsmsmedsoc.co.uk

University clubs and societies
You will have access to all clubs and societies at both the University of Sussex and the University of Brighton. Performing arts are popular on both campuses, with numerous choirs, 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 and design, to 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.

The students’ unions organise several major events during the year, including fresher’s and summer balls, and big-name bands and DJs are regular visitors to the campus.

To find out more about both students’ unions visit brightonsu.com and sussexstudent.com

*Did you know*
There are more than 30 clubs at BSMS

RockSoc is one of the many societies at BSMS

Sport and fitness
Whether you want to keep fit, dance or are into serious sport, there are excellent sports facilities at Falmer including sports halls, fitness and dance studios, exercise classes, squash and tennis courts and football and rugby pitches.

A range of student sports clubs are on offer, including watersports clubs, which benefit from Brighton’s seaside location. Sports clubs provide coaching and instruction and take part in British Universities and Colleges Sports (BUCS) 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, including football, hockey and rugby among others, which participate in a range of leagues.

Patrick Tano, Year 5
Out and about

Year 4 medical student Amber Moys gives the BSMS insider’s guide to living and studying in Brighton.

‘Base camp’
BSMS is unique in being split across two different university campuses, just four miles from central Brighton. The student population is vast, a fact always apparent on the buses on the way to a night out in town. Living among a diverse, exciting population of students is never quiet, given the activity of the student unions, along with the local campus bars and sports facilities. The campuses are just nine minutes from Brighton by train, and 20 by bus or bike (if you’re the healthy type!).

‘London by the sea’
Brighton really has a buzzing city vibe, and with a wide variety of shops and restaurants, you are never short of something to do. The individuality of the quirky, hipster lanes among the beautiful scenery of the seaside and historical buildings is what makes Brighton so attractive to outsiders. Whether you’re looking for pop-up fun-fairs, street theatre, vintage clothes sales or markets, it’s always fun to go out in the city.

The highlight of Brighton’s attractions has to be the yearly Brighton Festival and Fringe in May, celebrating all the culture and art rife in the area and attracting national and even international acts. Another unmissable event is Brighton Pride – with parades, street parties and music festivals, which brings visitors from around the UK.

There’s a fantastic comedy festival in October, and you could head to Lewes on 5 November to experience Bonfire Night as never before, or to the seafront for the Burning of the Clocks winter solstice parade and bonfire.

James Chu, Year 2
Life in Brighton as a university student is great – there are so many things to do both in the daytime and the evening. I love Brighton beach, it’s great just to walk along the seafront on a sunny day. And you will get lots of friends coming to visit you here!

Eunice Lee, Year 5, international student from South Korea

A vibrant beach city, Brighton & Hove is also declared over 40% National Park

Did you know

Life in Brighton

‘Art attack’
Known for its arty culture, there’s always loads going on here culture wise – during the Open Houses month in May, you can follow trails around the city, visiting people’s houses where they are exhibiting art, and even sit in their gardens eating homemade cake! Museums and galleries range from the Brighton Pavilion, and Brighton and Hove museums and galleries to smaller obscure specialist museums.

The Brighton Centre, Dome, Theatre Royal and Old Market attract a range of big name artists, and smaller venues offer pre-London and fringe theatre. There are several cinemas showing blockbusters along with art-house cinemas.

‘The big smoke’
If you fancy a day or evening out in the capital, London is just over an hour away by train, and you can catch a late train back. For international getaways, we’re also close to Gatwick Airport (25 minutes from Brighton), Heathrow Airport (two hours by coach), and south coast ports.

‘Brighton at night’
Brighton truly comes alive at night. The nightlife is vast and has a great reputation, with a wide range of bars, clubs and pubs with live music. The student culture is rife, with affordable student nights and there are lots of great venues where bands and DJs perform; there is nothing better than seeing your hometown on the list of cities for a tour.

‘Sea the sights’
As one of the UK’s coolest ‘seaside towns’, Brighton’s seafront is a national bucket-list attraction. There are countless cafes, the pier, artists’ studios, beach volleyball and beach bars where you can take a more relaxed approach to enjoying the seaside.

If you’re the kind of person who prefers to get active, you could try windsurfing, sailing, diving, kayaking, kitesurfing or paddleboarding.

Personally, seeing the sea is a daily ‘pick me up’, a feeling shared among most locals. As a student it is at the heart of our social life, whether it be a social BBQ or summer swim, the seaside never fails to give us a close of enjoyment.

‘Escape to the country’
If all this isn’t enough, then you can head for the tranquility of the South Downs. Even if you’re not a countryside enthusiast, the greenery is great for walks, mountain biking, hiking and calming revision breaks, and you can stop for a cream tea in a picturesque village.
Useful information

> 34
Fees and funding

> 36
What qualifications do you need?

> 40
How will your application be processed?
Money can be a concern when going to university. At BSMS, both school and university staff have help and advice to offer.

**Fees and funding**

### Financial support

#### To assist new full-time home (UK) students studying for their first degree, a range of financial support is provided by the UK Government:

- 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.

See [gov.uk/student-finance](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance) for further information on government funding for students normally resident in England.

If you live in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland you will be offered a different package of support — please refer to the respective funding bodies:

- [saas.gov.uk](https://www.saas.gov.uk)
- [studentfinancewales.co.uk](https://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk)
- [studentfinanceni.co.uk](https://www.studentfinanceni.co.uk)

#### EU students

Funding has not been agreed for EU students entering university in 2021, but in 2020 EU students are only eligible for a tuition fee loan from the UK Government. There are some exceptions, eg, for EU students who have been living in the UK for more than five years — see [gov.uk/student-finance](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance) for more information. Fees for EU students may change substantially in 2021.

#### University of Sussex financial support

The University of Sussex provides financial support to students from lower-income families. To find out more, see [sussex.ac.uk/study/fees-funding](https://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/fees-funding).

In 2020, eligible UK students with a household income of less than £25,000 are entitled to the following in addition to any UK Government support:

- Year 1 – a £1,000 bursary
- Years 2, 3 and 4 – a £300 cash bursary in each year
- Year 5 of medical study – not available to students in receipt of an NHS Bursary.

Your eligibility will be assessed by the University of Brighton based on information provided in your Student Finance application: [gov.uk/student-finance](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance).

Special packages are also available to care leavers and students estranged from their families.

#### NHS Bursary

From the fifth year of study, you may be eligible for an NHS Bursary. This may include:

- Support with tuition fees
- Grants towards living costs
- Additional help, depending on your circumstances (eg, Dependents’ Allowance).

For further information see: [nhsbsa.nhs.uk](https://nhsbsa.nhs.uk)

#### Students with a previous degree

If you are a UK student and already have a degree you may find funding difficult for the BM BS degree, as you will not have access to a tuition fee loan. However you may apply for a means-tested Maintenance Loan to help towards living costs such as food and rent. 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.

You may be eligible for financial support from the University of Sussex (see left), and from your fifth year of study you may be eligible for an NHS Bursary to cover tuition fees and maintenance costs.

The universities and external charitable organisations are able to make additional support available specifically for graduate students, subject to eligibility.

#### International students

If offered a place to study at BSMS, you will be required to pay a £3,000 tuition fee deposit when you accept your offer. You will 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.

Some financial support is available from the universities. Details are liable to change and application deadlines vary, but as a guide, the University of Brighton offers a total of 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](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/international).

#### Living costs

Depending on your lifestyle, you may expect to spend the following on rent.

**University halls:** £91–£171 per week (£3,549–£6,669 per year, based on 2019 figures) depending on type of accommodation, and whether you choose catered or non catered. Costs include electricity, heating, water rates and the internet.

**Shared houses:** Average £120–£150 per person per week (£5,280–£6,720 per year, based on 2019 figures), not including utility bills, food or insurance.

#### Other costs

While PCs and 4–6 hour loan Chromebooks are available at both universities, to enable you to make the most of the learning opportunities at BSMS we strongly recommend that you have a suitable laptop computer. We offer a minimum specification for guidance, which includes information about the software available to you free as a BSMS student. This may be found at [bsms.ac.uk/IT-requirements](https://www.bsms.ac.uk/IT-requirements).

#### Advice on 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/sussex.ac.uk](https://www.brighton.ac.uk/sussex.ac.uk) [gov.uk/student-finance](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance) [ucas.com](https://www.ucas.com).

For the latest information on tuition fees, scholarships and bursaries for 2021 entry, please see: [bsms.ac.uk/fees-and-funding](https://www.bsms.ac.uk/fees-and-funding).
What qualifications do you need?

We are looking not only for academic ability but also for the personal qualities that people need and expect in a good doctor.

Entry requirements

BMAT
In year of application

AAA
A-levels
(including Biology & Chemistry)

AAB
Widening participation
(including Biology & Chemistry)

36 pts
Total in the International Baccalaureate
(including Biology & Chemistry)

35 pts
Total in the International Baccalaureate
Widening Participation
(including Biology & Chemistry)

BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT)
We require all applicants to sit the BMAT in the year of application in order to be considered for interview. 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 2019 entry, applicants who scored 16.1 or higher were invited to interview. Widening participation applicants identified as having contextual data (see page 38) were ranked separately, and this year all were invited to interview. The cut-off score for interview varies each year.

Please refer to the BMAT website admissions-testing.org for key dates and additional information.

Literacy and numeracy
Applicants must have qualifications in English and Mathematics equivalent to at least GCSE grade 6 or B, or an IELTS score of 7.0 or above with at least 7.0 in each section. For widening participation applications, we will accept grade 5 or C.

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

A-levels
Most standard offers for entry to BSMS are conditional on gaining three A grades at A-level (including Biology and Chemistry). For widening participation applicants we will accept AAB.

We do not specify the nature of the third A-level subject and we strongly encourage applications from students who study humanities or the arts (including Psychology), as we recognise their value in broadening academic horizons. It should be noted that General Studies is not acceptable at any level.

International Baccalaureate
You will normally need to pass the International Baccalaureate Diploma with 36 points overall. For widening participation applicants we will accept 35 points. You must have studied both Biology and Chemistry to minimum grade 6 at Higher level.

Did you know
We aim to give 30% of all interviews to widening participation applicants
**Widening participation**

BSMS is committed to widening participation into medicine, so along with assessing your academic profile, we will also be looking for any contextual data that may enhance your application.

If you are identified as having any two of the following key pieces of contextual data, then you will be considered separately from the rest of our applicants. For these applicants, we will accept AAB at A-level (including Biology and Chemistry); 35 points total in the International Baccalaureate; and English and Mathematics at GCSE grade 5 or C.

- You live in a neighbourhood that has low participation into higher education or live in an area that falls within the lowest 20% of the Index of Mass Deprivation.
- You attended a 11–16 state school that performed below the national average at Attainment 8 scores.
- You (or a parent or guardian) are in receipt of the 16 to 19 free school meals bursary.
- You (or a parent or guardian) are in receipt of a means-tested benefit.
- You have an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP).
- You have attended an 11–16 state school that performed below the national average at Attainment 8 scores.
- You live in a neighbourhood that has low participation into higher education or live in an area that falls within the lowest 20% of the Index of Mass Deprivation.
- You attended a 11–16 state school that performed below the national average at Attainment 8 scores.
- You are in receipt of a means-tested benefit.
- You have an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP).
- You have attended an 11–16 state school that performed below the national average at Attainment 8 scores.

We aim to give 30% of all interviews to students identified as having contextual data. Applicants who are (or have been) eligible for free school meals at any point between Year 9 and Year 13 are welcome.

**Access to Medicine**

Access to Medicine courses are an effective way for mature entrants who have not previously studied Biology and Chemistry at A-level or degree level to gain a qualification acceptable for entry into medical school. A pass at distinction level is normally required, along with demonstrated proficiency in both English and Maths, to a minimum level of GCSE grade 6 or B.

BSMS will not consider applications from any Access to Medicine students already holding qualifications in the relevant sciences graded at or below our standard entry requirements.

Developed in partnership with BSMS, the Access to Medicine course at East Sussex College offers a guaranteed interview with us. For details visit [escg.ac.uk](http://escg.ac.uk) or call 030 300 39200.

**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: [disability@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:disability@brighton.ac.uk)

All offers of places to study medicine are conditional upon a satisfactory health record and health assessment being carried out, in addition to viral screening as requested by the Department of Health, see [bsms.ac.uk/entry-requirements/faqs](http://bsms.ac.uk/entry-requirements/faqs).

Applicants should be aware that medical students and doctors who are discovered to have, or who later acquire, an infectious condition that threatens the wellbeing of patients may be required to discontinue their training or practice. If such unfortunate circumstances arise or are discovered after admission, we will advise students of the options open to them.

Enhanced-level criminal record checks are necessary for all medical school entrants and some convictions and cautions are incompatible with medical training and practice. We may share information about students’ fitness to practise with other bodies as necessary to ensure patients’ safety.

---

1 Eligibility will be identified by BSMS Admissions
2 Eligibility should be self-declared and evidence submitted via our admissions portal. All applicants will receive information on how to do this after submitting their UCAS application.

---

**Did you know**

We scored 96% overall satisfaction in the 2019 National Student Survey.
How will your application be processed?

Your application must be submitted through UCAS (ucas.ac.uk). This allows a maximum of four applications to UK medical schools. Applications must reach UCAS by 15 October 2020.

Open days
BSMS open days will take place on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 June 2020. 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 Wednesdays 26 February, 18 March, 15 April and 6 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:
- a short presentation about the admissions process
- 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. Dates offered for interview are fixed and cannot be changed.

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

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 / 9 min train

See bsms.ac.uk for directions.

Steps in the BSMS admissions cycle

1. Sit BMAT in August or November 2020
2. Submit your application to UCAS by 15 October 2020
3. Applicants are ranked according to BMAT and top-ranking candidates are invited to interview.
4. Admissions days are held in December 2020 and January 2021 (UK and EU students), and February and March 2021 (international students).
5. MMI results are considered by the admissions board.
6. Offers are made to successful candidates.
7. Qualification results are confirmed by August 2021. Candidates whose results match their offers are confirmed.