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Welcome to the University of Bristol

The University of Bristol is a world-renowned institution and one of the very best in the UK due to its outstanding teaching and research, superb facilities, and highly talented students and staff.

Bristol is proud to be a university at the heart of the education community and this brochure is designed to provide an overview of the outreach work that we currently undertake. We are determined to ensure the University is accessible to all and we are excited to be involved in a greater number of projects than ever before.

Our activities are wide ranging. Much of our work is involved in raising awareness of, and aspirations to, higher education generally, working with students from primary school age to those who may have left the classroom decades ago.

The University also has an important role to play in serving the community, and we are committed to working with schools and colleges to help raise levels of attainment. We offer a varied programme of activities for schools and colleges across the UK, many of which are open to all, and some of which have targeted criteria. We hope that our outreach activities provide an opportunity for any school or college to engage with the University.

We have a range of initiatives designed to enrich the curriculum for learners and encourage students to think about their choices at higher education. We are continually developing our activities and welcome new ideas from you as to how we might further support your students’ attainment.

The table of activities on the following page has been designed to make it easier for you to identify the type of activity you are looking for. We hope that we have something on offer that interests you and your students.

If you would like us to offer an activity that is not listed, please email schools-colleges-liaison@bristol.ac.uk.

Full details of all of our schools and colleges activities are available on the Study at Bristol website: bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers.
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**Key:**
- **Targeted**
- **Open to all**
The University of Bristol is proud to have teaching staff who are not only world leaders in their field but who are also dedicated to sharing their knowledge.

Many of these academic staff are available to come to local schools and give talks on a range of topics. We hope that these talks complement the national curriculum as well as giving extra insight into university study. Talks are pitched at an accessible level for school/college students and have been extremely popular with teachers and students alike. There are talks available for all age groups from primary school upwards.

Talk titles include:
- Imagining Pompeii
- Who built the Clifton Suspension Bridge and how did they do it?
- Lava lakes and volcanic flatulence: How do volcanoes let off steam?

If you are a teacher at a school within an hour’s drive of the University of Bristol and would like to book an academic talk, a comprehensive list of talks and the booking form are available at: bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/pre-16 or bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/post-16.

We offer a range of talks and workshops to help your students make informed decisions about university.

Talks cover the following topics:
- How to navigate the UCAS application process
- Writing your personal statement
- Student finance
- Student life
- Why go to university?
- Choosing your course and university.

These events provide students with the specific information they need before and during the application process. These talks can be delivered at your school/college at a time of your choice, and can be delivered to students and parents/carers. As always, we are happy to tailor the content of a session to the needs of your school/college.
Subject-specific outreach

Many of our academic schools offer comprehensive schools and colleges liaison programmes:

- **Bristol ChemLabS runs an active outreach programme for primary and secondary schools, as well as continuing professional development courses for teachers.** Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/chemlabs/outreach.

- **The School of Earth Sciences participates in a number of activities including Your Planet Earth and the Bristol Dinosaur Project.** Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/earthsciences/public-engagement.

- **The School of Medical Sciences has a Mobile Teaching Unit (MTU);** a lorry that expands to turn into a seminar room for up to 20 students at a time. **Inside the MTU, students can engage in hands-on anatomy and physiology demonstrations run by University staff.** Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/cetl/aims/mobileteachingunit.

- **The School of Physics has an active schools outreach programme,** including work experience and a particle physics master class. **Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/physics/public-engagement/schools.**

- **Bristol Veterinary School organises VetQuest, a one day workshop for Year 11 and 12 students interested in a career in veterinary science.** Find out more by contacting the Vet School: bristol.ac.uk/vetscience/contact.

For more information about our academic schools’ outreach activities, please visit: bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/activities.

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Children in care and care leavers

We provide a personal adviser for care leavers applying to the University and we also offer a programme of activities designed to:

- **build confidence and self-esteem;**
- **raise awareness of educational opportunities;**
- **dispel pre-conceived ideas about further and higher education;**
- **support educational decisions;**
- **raise aspirations;**
- **provide a taste of university life.**

For more information, please email schools-colleges-liaison@bristol.ac.uk.

Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/study/care-leavers.
Aiming Higher days

The University of Bristol holds regular Aiming Higher days for local school groups throughout the year. These days provide an opportunity for students between the age of 10 and 16 to visit the University and to learn about the benefits of higher education.

We can host groups of up to 60 students from local primary and secondary schools, and aim to raise students’ aspirations towards and awareness of university.

A typical Aiming Higher day may involve:

- **Working with current students at the University of Bristol who can give an insight into what it is really like to attend university.**
- **Fun and interactive ice-breaker activities.**
- **A series of informative and myth-busting group activities with our current students.**
- **Light-hearted sessions to increase university awareness, eg the HE quiz.**
- **A tour of our main University campus.**
- **An academic taster session designed to show students what a university ‘lesson’ might be like, eg ‘The Physics of Ice Cream’ lecture.**

Aiming Higher days can be tailored to the needs of students from your school and are free of charge. Find out more at: [bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/pre-16/secondary](http://bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/pre-16/secondary).

To book a visit, please email [schools-colleges-liaison@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:schools-colleges-liaison@bristol.ac.uk).
We provide trained students to act as role models and support the learning of young people in selected local schools with the aim of widening participation in higher education.

The Students in Schools programme includes the following school-based activities:

- **academic tutoring**
- **pastoral mentoring**
- **classroom support.**

Academic tutoring is primarily for post-16 students who have the ability and motivation to progress to a selective university, but may face other barriers to learning. Student tutors run small-group or individual study sessions in a subject which they are taking at degree level.

Pastoral mentoring provides learner-centred support on a regular basis during the academic year. Mentoring is intended for young people from a school’s widening participation cohort who have the potential to progress to higher education.

Students providing classroom support work alongside the class teacher in the same way as a learning support assistant. They can answer questions, explain subject matter and support learners in a variety of ways, including small group work. Students are matched to a specific subject area which would either be their degree subject or one of their A-level subjects.

Find out more at: [bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/students](http://bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/students).

If you are interested in this programme, please email [students-in-schools@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:students-in-schools@bristol.ac.uk).
Year 11 Summer Schools

Our residential summer schools give Year 11 students the opportunity to experience what it might be like to live and study at the University:

• Students take part in academic taster sessions for a wide range of subjects, including some they may not have studied before such as law or psychology.

• Students participate in a lively programme of social activities run by University clubs and societies such as debating or dance.

• Current Bristol students will be on hand at all times to answer any questions and share their experiences of university.

• Students stay in one of the University’s residences in their own en-suite room.

• It is completely free! All travel, meals, accommodation and activities are paid for by the University.

The summer school is intended for Year 11 students who attend one of our target schools in the South West of England. Every February/March, we contact these schools directly with further information and application forms. Please talk to your Head of Year 11/Head of Careers to see if your students are eligible to apply.

To find out more, please email wp-yess@bristol.ac.uk.

UCAS fairs and conventions

We attend a wide variety of UCAS fairs across the UK. This allows us to provide you and your students with information on entry requirements, guidance on the admissions process and what we look for in potential applicants.

At these events, students can find out more about courses that they are interested in, as well as student support and extracurricular activities.

We deliver presentations at some of these fairs covering topics such as applying for competitive courses, and we give subject-specific presentations to provide students with an idea of what they might study in a particular course. Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/uk-fairs.

If you would like a representative at a higher education event that you are organising, please email schools-colleges-liaison@bristol.ac.uk.
Attending an open day is the best way to get a real sense of what it will be like to live and study in Bristol.

At open days, students will have the opportunity to visit academic schools, meet staff and current students, explore our student accommodation, and find out about support services such as careers and student funding.

We run specific talks for teachers and careers advisers where you will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have. You might also like to go along to some of the subject and welcome talks.

We run three undergraduate open days each year, in June and September.

Booking is essential for both staff and students, and opens in May for the June dates and in July for the September date.

Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/opendays.

If you would like to bring a group of students to the open days, please email us at open-days@bristol.ac.uk by mid-April for the June open days, and by mid-July for the September open day.

We also hold open afternoons in the Autumn Term as another opportunity to visit the University.

Open afternoons give students the chance to attend welcome talks, go on a tour of the campus with a current student, and meet staff from a wide range of professional services, such as the Accommodation or Admissions Office.

Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/visits/afternoons.

Current Bristol students lead walking tours of the main campus throughout the year to give prospective students the chance to visit some of the University's facilities and find out what it's like to study at Bristol.

Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/visits/tours.

The self-guided tour can be downloaded as an app if you have an iPhone or alternatively as an MP3 or PDF file from the web. The complete tour takes about 90 minutes, including several optional detours around parts of the city. Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/university/visit/walking-tour.html.
The Sutton Trust Summer School is a six-day residential programme held in July. It is aimed at Year 12 students from non-privileged backgrounds with outstanding academic ability.

The school is designed to give students an insight into the different courses on offer at the University, based around a subject area of their choice.

We currently offer the following subject streams:

- Medicine and Dentistry
- Biomedical Sciences
- Mathematics
- Social and Political Science
- Law
- Engineering
- Historical Studies
- Literature Studies
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Economics, Management, Finance and Accounting.

Our evening programme of events, featuring activities such as bowling, karaoke and a celebratory dinner, gives participants a taste of life as a student at a top university.

Students will stay in one of our catered halls of residence with a team of current student mentors who will be on hand to answer questions about studying at the University. By the end of the week, participants will have a full insight into university life, be prepared for the university application process and have made some excellent friends!

Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/sutton-trust.
The University of Bristol offers school/college visit days for Year 12 and 13 groups throughout the year.

These days are a great opportunity for students to visit the University, find out more about its courses and facilities, and meet current university students.

Students also learn more about higher education and the university application process.

A school/college visit day typically includes talks and interactive sessions on the following topics:

- the benefits of higher education
- student finance
- student life
- applying to university through UCAS
- how to write a good personal statement.

All sessions include a tour of our main campus and subject to availability, we are often able to include academic taster sessions for a variety of subjects.

School/college visit days can be tailored to the needs of your students and are free of charge.

To find out more or to book a visit, please email schools-colleges-liaison@bristol.ac.uk.
The University of Bristol is a partner university for the Realising Opportunities Programme, which brings together 16 leading universities to promote fair access and social mobility of students from under-represented groups.

Starting in Year 12, students are supported through a programme of activities designed to encourage progression to research-intensive universities. If participating students apply to any of the 16 partner universities they will be given additional consideration, which may lead to an alternative offer which is up to two A-level grades lower than the standard offer.

The programme includes the following activities:

- **e-mentoring from a university student**;
- **launch event**;
- **national student conference**;
- **activities at partner universities (eg summer school)**;
- **academic element: either Extended Project Qualification or academic assignment (supervised by a university tutor)**;
- **Skills4uni online study skills module**.

For more information, please visit: [bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/post-16/opportunities](http://bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/post-16/opportunities) or [www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk](http://www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk).

Bristol is the host for qualifying schools and colleges located in Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. Recruitment for Year 12 students starts in September each year. Our staff would be happy to visit qualifying schools or colleges to talk to your students about the programme.

For more information and to check if your school or college qualifies, please email [realising-opportunities@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:realising-opportunities@bristol.ac.uk).
The Pathways to Law programme was set up in 2006 by The Sutton Trust and The Legal Education Foundation (formerly The College of Law), with support from major law firms, to inspire and support academically able students from non-privileged backgrounds interested in a career in law.

This two-year programme gives students the chance to experience lectures and seminars on various aspects of law and to benefit from trips to Bristol Crown Court and the Inner Temple in London.

Students will complete a work placement, experiencing life at an established law firm, and meeting a wide variety of people from trainees through to senior partners. All Pathways students are invited to attend a three-night residential conference in July of Year 12 at the University of Warwick, where they will gain an insight into university life and meet students from other Pathways institutions.

One of the most important elements of the Pathways programme is e-mentoring. The e-mentoring website gives students access to advice on university life and careers, and participants are matched to a current University of Bristol law student who can answer any questions they may have.

The programme also includes advice and guidance sessions covering topics such as applying to university and an LNAT session.

We are delighted to offer a linked bursary scheme for Pathways to Law participants with a residual household income of £25,000 or below who progress to the University of Bristol. This consists of a full tuition fee waiver in the first year and an annual maintenance grant.

Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers/post-16/pathways.
Access to Bristol

The Access to Bristol scheme is an eight-week programme held at the University on Wednesday afternoons across the Autumn and Spring Terms. The scheme is open to local students in Years 12 or 13 (or those on equivalent courses, eg mature students on Access courses) with the ability and enthusiasm to study at the University of Bristol.

Students will explore the different courses available within their chosen subject area and gain a fresh perspective on their A-level studies. Current students and academics will be on hand to offer advice and guidance about higher education.

The subject streams currently on offer include: Animal Sciences; Archaeology and Anthropology; Biomedical Sciences; Biology; Chemistry; Childhood Studies and Social Policy; Earth Sciences; Economics, Finance and Management; Engineering; English Literature; Film and Theatre; Geography; Historical Studies; Liberal Arts; Mathematics; Modern Languages; Philosophy; Physics; Politics; Psychology; Religion and Theology; Sociology.

As well as developing their subject knowledge on one of the streams listed above, students will visit the Students’ Union to try out a range of university clubs and societies, for example, seeing how the student radio station works or playing a new sport. This experience will give students an enjoyable introduction to some of the extracurricular activities on offer at the University.

We are delighted to offer a linked bursary scheme for Access to Bristol participants with a residual household income of £25,000 or below, who progress to the University of Bristol. This consists of a full tuition fee waiver for the first year of study and a living cost bursary for each year of study on the course.

Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/access-to-bristol.
We offer a range of activities and events for Access to HE Diploma students.

Visits to groups at your college with talks on:

• applying to higher education, including writing effective personal statements;
• applying to the University of Bristol (as above with additional Bristol-specific information);
• life at university – former Access students now studying at Bristol share their experiences;
• student funding;
• making the transition to university-level study;
• subject-specific talks (see page 3) can be tailored for Access to HE Diploma students.

Visits to the University:

• Information sessions for Access and mature students are held throughout the year and individual appointments can be arranged. Find out more at: bristol.ac.uk/study/mature.

The Mature and Part-time Students’ Adviser is the main point of contact for Access tutors and students wanting to know more about our courses and entry requirements. If you have any questions or you would like to book a visit to your college or to the University, please email mature-students@bristol.ac.uk.
HE advisers’ day

We appreciate the vital roles that teachers and careers advisers play in advising students about their options in higher education and we are keen to support you in this process.

For this reason, we run an HE advisers’ day, to provide you with an opportunity to meet with admissions tutors at the University and discuss developments surrounding admissions, UCAS applications and information relating to your area of academic study. The day also provides an opportunity to find out more about key issues relating to higher education including finance, graduate careers and guidance for advisers who work with mature students or students with disabilities.

Our staff can also run sessions in schools and colleges for teachers and careers advisers as well as students. These sessions focus on topics such as tips for writing UCAS references, supporting students through the UCAS application process or advice about other aspects of HE.

If you would like to be kept up to date about the latest events that we are running, please email schools-colleges-liaison@bristol.ac.uk.
Useful Resources

**Factsheets**
We have developed a series of helpful factsheets to help students with their university choices:

[bristol.ac.uk/ug-factsheets](bristol.ac.uk/ug-factsheets)

**Mature students’ website**
This website contains advice on applying to university and information on entry requirements, support services and life as a mature student:

[bristol.ac.uk/study/mature](bristol.ac.uk/study/mature)

**Study at Bristol website**
The Study at Bristol website provides information for prospective students considering a degree at Bristol; if you have a question then it’s sure to be answered here:

[bristol.ac.uk/study](bristol.ac.uk/study)

**Undergraduate prospectus**
This is the primary resource for students interested in our undergraduate degrees. You can request a print version or download the prospectus from our website:

[bristol.ac.uk/prospectusrequest](bristol.ac.uk/prospectusrequest)

Our online course finder is a valuable resource as it is updated throughout the year with any new information that is not in the print version of the prospectus:

[bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](bristol.ac.uk/ug-study)

**Pathways to Law**
Pathways to Law provides students with a great insight into studying for a degree in law. For information on the programme and partner universities, please visit:

[www.pathwaystolaw.org.uk](www.pathwaystolaw.org.uk)

**The Sutton Trust**
The Sutton Trust runs a range of programmes with the aim of providing opportunities for young people from non-privileged backgrounds and increasing social mobility. Find out more about their work and the summer school that we run in conjunction with them on their website:

[www.suttontrust.com](www.suttontrust.com)

**Realising Opportunities**
The Realising Opportunities website provides information on partner universities and upcoming events:

[www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk](www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk)
If you need all or part of this publication in an alternative format, please contact the Customer Relations and Student Marketing Team on:

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E ug-publications@bristol.ac.uk

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Every effort has been made to ensure that details are correct at the time of going to press in May 2015. The University will use all reasonable efforts to deliver the programmes as described.

bristol.ac.uk/study/teachers

When you have finished with this document please recycle it