

INSIDE

BCoT

AUGUST 2017

RESULTS DAY – WHAT TO DO NEXT

As you prepare to receive your exam results – we know you face the day with some trepidation. Most of you will get the results you need and will be celebrating. Some however, might not quite reach the mark and I wanted to give you some words of reassurance to help you deal with the outcome.

Firstly – don't worry! There will be a suitable option for you, no matter what your results are. We run similar courses at different levels to make sure you have the best chance of succeeding.

Secondly – talk to us! My team will be on hand on results day to deal with all of your queries and to help work out a good solution for you. Whether that's a different course or apprenticeship, then we will help you decide the right pathway.

With our tremendous results in the National Achievement Tables this year, whatever the outcome on results day, you can be sure you will be given the best opportunity to succeed at BCoT.

Anthony Bravo
Principal

Results Hotline: 01256 354141

Top performance in National Achievement Rates:

3RD IN UK	Level 3 Achievement (Higher Apprenticeships)
TOP 12%	Timely Achievement (Apprenticeships)
TOP 13%	Level 3 Achievement (16–18s)
TOP 33%	Adult Achievement
TOP 7%	Level 2 Functional Skills

BCoT RANKED AMONG THE TOP COLLEGES IN THE UK

It's official – students do better at BCoT, with the college taking top honours in the National Achievement Tables issued by the government last month.

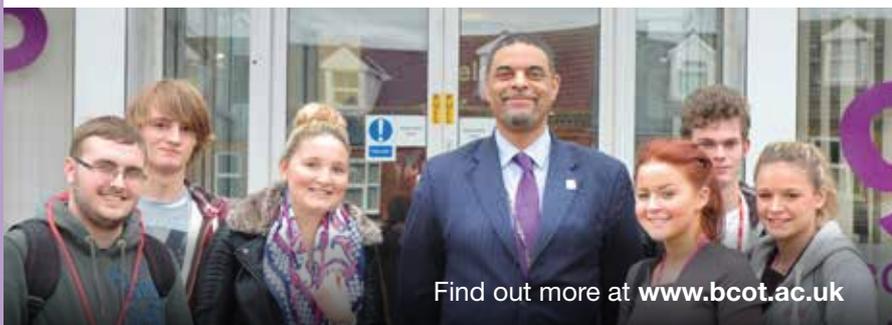
BCoT was ranked number three in the country for Level 3 achievement on higher level apprenticeship programmes and impressively, in the top 13% for achievement at Level 3 for 16–18 year olds, ranking BCoT alongside the top colleges in the area for this measure.

Principal, Anthony Bravo, said:

“What an exceptional set of performance figures for BCoT which demonstrate how the college's investment in high standards of teaching and learning across all its programmes is bearing fruit. Quite simply, our students achieve more and I couldn't be prouder that we have been ranked among the best colleges in the country.”

BCoT's apprenticeship programmes shone under the national spotlight with Mr Bravo explaining: “We are one of the largest providers of apprenticeship training in the region and are set to see a huge increase in the number of people taking an apprenticeship – from school leavers, to those already in industry. Employers now have the tangible assurance they will be working with one of the best providers in the area.”

The results for Level 3 achievement among 16–18 year olds were also impressive. These qualifications are the equivalent to A levels and the college secured an 89% achievement rate which is 4% above the national average and ranks BCoT firmly alongside neighbouring colleges.



Find out more at www.bcot.ac.uk

GET A HEAD START AT BCoT

BASINGSTOKE
COLLEGE of
TECHNOLOGY

BCoT

LEVEL 3 STUDENTS SECURE TOP UNIVERSITY PLACES



With 25% of all university entrants coming from students with BTEC qualifications, we are championing the academic credentials of our vocational courses at BCoT.

Last year, 55% of our graduating Level 3 students went on to university, with many securing coveted places at prestigious universities such as King's College London; University of Southampton; University of Surrey and Queen's University, Belfast, studying subjects as varied as Biomedical Science, Automotive Engineering, Criminology and Forensic Studies and Wildlife Ecology and Conservation.

The depth of study undertaken at Level 3 will often give students a head start at university against those studying a broader range

of subjects at A level. Our students also learn valuable research and referencing skills, as well as working on collaborative projects with other students – all base level requirements at undergraduate level.

Vocational study is also ideal for those young people who prefer ongoing assessment and more active learning models than exam-based A levels – and they can still achieve their academic and career goals.

If you would like more information about vocational courses, or to find out more about our results, visit the website or call our careers adviser on 01256 354141.

NEW FUTURE SKILLS CENTRE READY TO OPEN

BCoT'S FLAGSHIP MULTI-MILLION POUND FUTURE SKILLS CENTRE IN BORDON, IS ALL SET FOR A SEPTEMBER OPENING AND THE COLLEGE IS RECRUITING NOW FOR THE NEW COURSES.

Located in the former Louisburg Barracks site, the centre will provide young people, employers and the wider community with much-needed technical skills. Principal Anthony Bravo commented:

“The regeneration programme is promising economic prosperity to the area and our new range of construction courses will provide students with the skills and know-how to support this economic growth.”

For more information about the Future Skills Centre, including courses available in September, please visit bcot.ac.uk/bordonfsc or follow @BordonFSC on Twitter.



Although the focus will be on technical skills for the construction sector, the centre will also be a new local hub for technical training and will host a broad adult community learning programme for the wider community.

The project was funded by £250,000 from the County Council and a £3.8 million award from the Local Growth Fund Grant from the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership.

EXPERTISE AT THE TOP

A state of the art skills centre needs someone with first class skills, experience and expertise and that's Steve Gilder, the newly appointed Future Skills Centre Manager.

Steve, formerly Head of Construction and Building Services at Fareham and Croydon colleges, started his working life as an apprentice. From grass-roots training, he then went on to work in industry and study at Portsmouth University where he gained his Civil Engineering degree. He said: “The centre will play a vital part in the lives of young people. Our vision is to make this a centre of excellence for construction skills training and a valuable route into employment.”

Find out more at bcot.ac.uk/bordonfsc

STUDENTS GET TOUR OF NEW CENTRE

NEW STUDENTS VISIT SKILL CENTRE

Over 60 new students visited the Future Skills Centre in July for their first tour of the finished building.

Led by Steve Gilder, the students had the chance to see the workshops and equipment they will be using as part of their course. The tour included parents as well as prospective students who got a flavour of where and how their children will be studying.

BCoT LEADING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

In the age of digital technology, BCoT is leading the way in ensuring its students have the digital skills needed to give them a head start in the world of work.

The college has created a unique digital team whose role it is to develop the digital and technical skills of all staff and students. They work with the latest online tools such as Google Classroom to combine digital media and traditional classroom techniques to create a new method of teaching and learning. This means that all students, whether they are training to be mechanics or beauty therapists, are gaining the digital skills demanded by industry in the classroom.

Shortlisted for a prestigious Times Educational Supplement (TES) award earlier this year, the digital team works directly with industry to identify which digital tools are being used in the workplace and brings them back to the classroom. This guarantees that students are working with the very latest technology demanded by industry and are work-ready at the end of their time at college.



#BCoT70

70 YEARS OF BCoT

We are proud of our long heritage in Basingstoke and will be celebrating our 70th anniversary this year with a gala dinner in October. Guests will include former students and principals, current staff, employers, local dignitaries, and the many charities which BCoT proudly supports. Principal Anthony Bravo said the evening will be a chance to “celebrate and look back on where we began, and all the incredible things we have gone on to achieve.”

We are keen to hear your stories of your experience at BCoT – whether as a student or someone who attended the many events and gigs held at the college. Follow our social media pages and join in using #bcot70.

NEW MIKE TAYLOR BARBERING COLLEGE LAUNCHES AT BCoT



WITH BARBERING CURRENTLY HEADING UP THE HIPSTER CULTURE, THERE'S NO BETTER TIME TO JOIN THE INDUSTRY.

BCoT will be the place to train as a barber, as leading male grooming specialist Mike Taylor launches his Barbering College at BCoT this September.

Mike Taylor's credentials are impressive. He was the very first barber in the UK to be crowned a master craftsman and is also one of a handful of barbers in the country trusted to write the British Barbers' Association's national training standards.

Courses will include Level 2 and 3 qualifications and can be studied full or part-time. Aimed at professionals who want to specialise in barbering, or those new to the profession, this exciting part of the hair and beauty industry will continue to grow.

Visit bcot.ac.uk for more information.

WORLD SKILLS COMES TO BCoT



BCoT's stunning beauty salons recently played host to some of the country's best Beauty Therapy and Fashion Photography students competing at the regional WorldSkills Competition.

Creativity and technical skills were put to the test, as the 30 students battled for a place on the national team which will represent the UK in Russia in 2019.

Simon Lovegrove, Head of Curriculum for Hair and Beauty at BCoT, said: “Hosting WorldSkills was an opportunity for the college to showcase its specialist training facilities and cutting edge equipment to other colleges and industry professionals.”

“This was a chance for our students to be judged against the country's best and go on to compete internationally. It was also an honour to be selected to host the event and to be a central part of this prestigious competition, which showcases the best of the UK's talent in skills-based industries.”

Find out more at bcot.ac.uk

HYUNDAI COUPE CUP

Speed-loving automotive students got under the bonnet and onto the track at Silverstone, home of British Formula 1, for the Hyundai Coupe Cup.



In the famous Silverstone paddock, the team of college race engineers prepared and checked the car for testing, ready for its first time on the track. Their talents didn't go unnoticed, receiving high praise from series organiser, Joe Winter.

Race day presented a number of challenges for the team from getting the car through 'scrutineering' to high pressure preparation to being race-ready in time for qualification.

The team's performance was strong – no medals this time, but the experience and opportunity were a huge success.

The college is also building new partnerships with BMW and Mercedes – bringing the motor industry even closer at BCoT.

ACCESS STUDENTS CELEBRATE AT THEIR PROM

Having missed out on their school proms, our Access students made sure they celebrated the successful end to their time at BCoT in glamorous style.



Organiser Aimee O'Brien said: "Many of us on the Access course are older and our schools didn't have proms when we were there. We've had such a fantastic year at BCoT and wanted to celebrate all our achievements together before we go on to university or start new jobs."

BCoT offers a range of Access courses which are designed for people who do not have the qualifications to enter university. They are a recognised alternative to A Levels and are aimed at anyone who wishes to progress on to study for a degree.

Most of the Access students, including Aimee, have been offered places at university for September. Commenting on the next steps she said: "I've been offered a place at the University of Winchester to study social work, which is something I've wanted to do for such a long time. This would not have been possible without the help and support I've had from the Access team at BCoT."

Find out more at bcot.ac.uk/access

BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE

We know that it is important to give context to what we teach in the classroom, through links with employers and work placements, but also through trips and visits. This year students have gone as far afield as Africa for our animal management students and Canada for our hospitality and catering students, to name just two.

Find out more about the exciting opportunities open to you at BCoT by visiting our website at bcot.ac.uk.



GET OFF TO A GREAT START IN SEPTEMBER

We hope many of you will have already joined us at our Summer Starter event to get a feel for college life and to prepare you for your September start.

If you didn't make it don't worry, we will be writing to you with details of how to enrol once you have your results and when and where to go on your first day.

We also run an induction programme in the first six weeks to help you settle in to college, to make sure you are on the right course and to give you the opportunity to change your mind if you wish. Your personal tutor will be on hand to help with all your academic needs and our Student Experience team will provide help, information and some fun activities to get you off to a great start.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT STARTING IN SEPTEMBER OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OVER THE SUMMER PLEASE CONTACT 01256 354141

KEEP IN TOUCH

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