

BGU Foundation Year NewsLetter

February 2023

The Library is an amazing space. It is a wonderful opportunity to help people, and be amongst books!

- Emma

Interested in becoming a volunteer?

BG Futures can give you more information about a whole range of opportunities - email bgfutures@bishopg.ac.uk for further details.



FDY volunteer Emma helps to keep the shelves stacked (image provided by subject)

What's been going on?

Working with the local community

A number of our Foundation Year students have been keeping busy by volunteering at the Ermine Library and Community Hub this semester. As well as library services, the Hub offers craft sessions, storytime for parents and children, and a warm space for the local community. The Library is located just a few minutes from BGU, on Ravendale Road, and is open two days a week, so is the perfect opportunity for students looking to volunteer their time.

Congratulations!

Look how far you've come already...

With modules 001, 002, 003, and 004 out of the way, you're officially halfway through your Foundation Year - **congratulations!** The transition to university can be tricky for anyone, whether you're coming straight from school or returning to education after a break away. We know a lot of you are also juggling multiple commitments with families, jobs, and hobbies all keeping you busy. The FDY team are proud of how you've taken on this challenge and are so impressed with the standard of work you're producing. Don't forget to take time to celebrate your hard work before looking forward to everything that's coming up!

Exploring Lincoln

On 1 February, Foundation Year students on the Archaeology, History, and Military History courses headed off for a walking tour of historic Lincoln, expertly guided by History lecturer Dr Erik Grigg. The tour took them all around the town (literally!), from the Castle to Greyfriars - the perfect introduction to one of the most historic towns in the UK.

Foundation Year Team

Room 214, Skinner Building

foundationyear@bishopg.ac.uk

If you have any news or stories you'd like us to share in the newsletter, drop us a line!

What's coming up?

Wellbeing Wednesdays

The month of March is all about promoting celebrating positive wellbeing at BGU, with the SU and CELT leading on weekly 'Wellbeing Wednesdays' throughout the month. Each Wednesday in March, you can pop along to the Students' Union to enjoy a whole range of free activities designed to support all aspects of your wellbeing.

For more information, keep an eye out for promotional material around campus very soon - just look for the Wellbeing Flower!



Get stuck into your subject

What can you expect from the rest of your Foundation Year? We'll be exploring how to communicate effectively in 005, use digital tools for learning in 006, reflect critically in 007, and write academically in 008.

Best of all, you get to choose your own topics to research, so you can pick just about anything from your subject area that you're interested in. You could research something you already know that you love, or take the opportunity to learn something completely new about your subject. These modules are all about transitioning to being students of your subject area, ensuring you are fully prepared to hit the ground running in September!

Congratulations Dr Glenfield!*

In February, Mick will be heading down to Bristol to celebrate graduating with his PhD in English Literature. Pictorial evidence of the hat and gown to be provided in the next newsletter...

*Bonus points not guaranteed to anyone who uses Mick's new title, but it certainly can't hurt...!

We want to hear from you!

Please complete the BGU Student Satisfaction Survey

BGU is all about listening to our students' voices to make sure we're always meeting your needs. You know us best and you can always tell us what we're doing well and what else you'd like us to be doing. The BGU Student Satisfaction Survey ('BGUSSS') launched on 30th January and is open until 30th April. This is **your chance** to influence real change at your university so make sure to complete the survey! It will only take around 10 minutes and you can access it at <https://www.bgu.ac.uk/student/bgu-say>. **Make sure your voice gets heard!**

Do you know someone who could do a Foundation Year?

Applications are open now!

The Foundation Year is currently accepting applications for next year's students. If you know anyone who you think would thrive at BGU, please encourage them to order a prospectus or visit us on one of our Open Days:

- 15 February
- 4 March
- 1 April

Don't forget!

If you haven't worked with our professional services yet, why not take the opportunity in the new semester? The Learning Development and Digital Learning teams in CELT are all about upskilling you - whatever level of academic or digital skills you are at, they will be able to take your skills to the next level. Book in with one of the teams through the CELT area of the Student Portal.