



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Key Dates to note in your diary:

New Student Conference	28 / 29 / 30 June 2011
GCSE Results Day	25 August 2011
Registration at College	30 / 31 August 2011
Lessons start	5 September 2011

## How can I keep in touch with what is happening at the College?

We will keep you updated with key information that is relevant to your application. You can expect to receive information in the post at the following times:

- After Easter Holidays – information regarding the New Student Conference which will be held in June.
- Summer Holidays – information regarding arrangements for Registration in August.

You can also keep up to date by:

- Joining our Facebook site [www.facebook.com/birkenheadsixthform](http://www.facebook.com/birkenheadsixthform)
- Referring to our Website [www.bsfc.ac.uk](http://www.bsfc.ac.uk)

## When do I need to register at College?

All new students are required to register at the College on either **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August**. The date and time will be confirmed to you in the registration information that you will receive at the New Student Conference and in the post during the summer holidays.

## What if I am on holiday or unable to register on the dates in August?

You can register at an alternative time – please contact [enrol@bsfc.ac.uk](mailto:enrol@bsfc.ac.uk) and we will confirm a date and time for you to come into the College to register.

## When do lessons start?

Lessons will start on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

## What are the term dates for the 2011-12 Academic Year?

The term dates for the 2011-12 Academic Year are detailed on our website : <http://www.bsfc.ac.uk/college-information/term-dates>

## When is the New Student Conference?

You will be invited to attend one of our half-day New Student Conferences on one of the following dates **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> / Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> / Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June**. You will have an opportunity to try out taster sessions in the subjects you have chosen to study at the College and also meet other students who are joining at the same time as you.

## What do I do if I want to change my courses?

You can change your course choices at anytime up until you start at the College. If you would like to change one of your choices please contact us at [enrol@bsfc.ac.uk](mailto:enrol@bsfc.ac.uk) – if your predicted/achieved grades meet the entry criteria will make a note of your new course choice. If your grades don't meet the entry criteria we will advise you accordingly and ask you to choose an alternative course. Information on the subject entry criteria can be found on the subject outlines available on the website: <http://www.bsfc.ac.uk/courses>.

## When will I need to let you know my GCSE results?

We will ask for confirmation of your GCSE results when you come into College to register in August.

## What if I do better than predicted or I don't get my predicted grades?

We have made you an offer of a place at the College and we will endeavour to find you a suitable programme. Once you receive your results we will review your course choices to make sure that the courses are the right ones for you.



### What happens if I don't get my Maths or English Language GCSE?

If you don't achieve either your Maths or English Language GCSE you will be able to resit your GCSEs or an alternative Level 2 qualification (determined following a short assessment by the department at the start of term).

### What pastoral support is available at the College?

We are extremely proud of the pastoral support that we offer at the College. When you join the College you will join a tutor group and you will be introduced to your Personal Tutor whose role is to support you whilst you are at College and will be a point of contact for you should you have any concerns at anytime. Full details of the support available is detailed online <http://www.bsfc.ac.uk/prospective-students/support> or alternatively in our College Prospectus.

### When do I choose what enrichment activities I want to do?

We hold a Freshers Fair at the beginning of September. During the fair you will have an opportunity to meet the people and organisations that will be running our enrichment activities for the year. At the end of the fair we will ask you to choose the activities you wish to do. Full details of the courses available are detailed in our College Prospectus.

### What is the College timetable?

The College timetable is as follows:

Day	Start	Finish
Monday	9.00am	4.15pm
Tuesday	9.00am	4.15pm
Wednesday	9.30am	3.00pm
Thursday	9.00am	4.15pm
Friday	9.00am	2.30pm

Please note:

- Students have private study time included in their timetable and have the option of studying at College or at home during these times.
- Attendance is taken in each lesson and monitored via our online Sapien system which both students and parents can have access to.
- Enrichment/BMore activities take place on a Wednesday afternoon for 1<sup>st</sup> year students.

### How do I apply for a bus pass?

We will provide you with further information at the New Student Conference and application forms are available from Reception.

### Is anything being offered in place of EMA (Educational Maintenance Allowance) which has been withdrawn from the Government?

The College is awaiting confirmation of whether additional funds will be available for the College Hardship Fund. If you have any concerns regarding funding whilst at College please contact [enrol@bsfc.ac.uk](mailto:enrol@bsfc.ac.uk).

We hope that the above information has answered any queries you may have at this stage. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the College on 0151 652 5575 or [enrol@bsfc.ac.uk](mailto:enrol@bsfc.ac.uk).

### Key Contacts:

Kate Rigby                      Assistant Principal – Learner Services/Admissions  
 Karen Alcock                  Admissions, Marketing & Tutorial Manager  
 Hilary Mitchell                Admissions Officer

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**We look forward to welcoming you to the College very soon**