The BME Success programme supports the experience and success of undergraduate Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) students during their time at University.

The programme employs a team of BME Success Advocates. These are students who work in partnership with other students and staff at the University to understand and address the challenges faced by BAME students, and to co-create and deliver a programme of events and activities which will generate discussion, reflect minority voices and foster an inclusive, high achieving community.

The BME Success programme is managed by the Student Inclusion Officer (BAME). If you would like to know more, or have students who you think would benefit from being included in these activities, email: robiu.salisu@bristol.ac.uk Robiu can also advise staff on matters relating to the experience and inclusion of BAME students.

Who are the BME Success Advocates?

Our BME Success Advocates are twenty-four trained students who are employed to help make a difference to the experiences of BAME students. They have three areas of focus; reviewing, belonging and events.

This brochure provides some examples of the type of projects that come under each area; however, the projects and teams are open for the Advocates to shape, influence and bring in their own ideas to create new projects as well.
Belonging Team
(6 Student Advocates)

Aim: Increase a greater sense of belonging and positive student experience for BAME students through initiatives that promote visible role models, social equality or wellbeing.

BME Powerlist Project
One of the key motivations behind the Bristol BME Powerlist is to improve links between students and the wider Bristol community, and to provide students with more visible BME role models to inspire them in their own careers, activities and engagement with the city. The campaign to find nominees was launched in January 2018 and ended with 500 inspiring nominations. The Powerlist has been printed and distributed by Bristol 24/7 and is now available across the city and online.

Black Men Talk Group
BMT set up Yannick Yalipende, provides a space for black men* to discuss their life experiences and interpretations of them. Sessions will focus on the exploration and sharing of various well-being techniques. *This group is for UOB students who self-identify as male and black (African, Caribbean or Mixed heritage).

Reviewing Team
(12 Student Advocates)

Aim: Support the University through School or Faculty level initiatives around learning and teaching, to make it more inclusive and engaging for BAME students.

Being BME In STEM Project
A working group set up by Lara Lalemi, made of student volunteers interested in tackling the underrepresentation of BME students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). This project included an event with solution-based workshop with academic staff, students and employers about positive actions that can be made by any STEM department to improve the environment in which BME students learn and work within.

Bristol Mentors (BME Mentorship)
Working with the Careers team, a review of the new Bristol Mentors scheme was carried out. This review championed by Nasra Ayub and Eva Larkai explored how to concentrate efforts on ensuring that Bristol Mentors can effectively support BAME undergraduate students with their career planning by providing them with an alumni mentor. The group established student focus groups as a means of testing proposals and seeking new ideas of how the programme can be adapted going forward.

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Events Team
(6 Student Advocates)

Aim: Organise informative and engaging events for students, throughout the academic year in partnership with Schools, Faculties and Bristol Students Union

Black History Month
The Black History Month programme has been pulled together by the student BME Network in collaboration with the Bristol SU events team. Black History Month is essential in promoting community cohesion through the teaching, learning and exploration of Black history. The flagship event was an all-female panel and there was a lecture talk delivered by prominent historian David Olusoga exploring the role black people have played in British history. A stark look at Bristol’s chequered history on the Bristol Slavery Trail was also organised by the Network.

Getting Into The Creative Industry: VICE, BBC, Channel 4
Considering that the latest statistics reveal that the creative industry is still 90% white and 60% male, the panel discussion explores what is like to be a black creative. Specifically, how to build resilience, find employment and get creative opportunities as a black person. This event led by Vanessa Wilson was an opportunity for UoB students to find out more about the creative and network with industry professionals.
What do I do now?

If you would like to work with our Student Advocates or feel you would benefit from advice from the Student Inclusion Officer, then please contact robu.salisu@bristol.ac.uk

If you want to keep up to date with the work, please visit:

🌐 bristol.ac.uk/bame
🖥 BristolBMESuccess
🐦 @BMESuccess