

Bournemouth & Poole College

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The [Bournemouth & Poole College Students' Union \(BPCSU\)](#) turns 50 this year and has begun its 50th celebrations with its annual fresher's fair and the launch of a new apprentice event.

At the start of term, 2,000 students were treated to a '50 years' party across the College's sites at North Road in Poole and Lansdowne in Bournemouth. A 'bucking bronco', ice cream, lunch and DJ were on offer along with 23 different companies offering a range of 'freebies' for students. For the first time this year our Degree Level students were also treated their own fresher's fair.

The students' union exists to provide students with a voice and has identified ways it would like to engage hard to reach students. This year one of its focuses is on engaging apprentices and at the beginning of this month, they held a workshop delivered by the National Society of Apprentices, the apprentice body of the National Union of Students (NUS).

Attended by 50 apprentices, the workshop provided an opportunity to gain feedback and allow students to have their voice at a national level. As a result of the event, two apprentices were also elected onto the national board for apprentices.

Brian Stewart, Student Engagement Co-ordinator at Bournemouth & Poole College said of the two events: "Our fresher's event was huge success. We wanted to launch our 50th year with something special. There were lots of freebies for the students as well as great information that will help our students succeed over the next year."

"As for the workshop, we were really pleased to have had the opportunity to run it for our apprentices. At BPCSU we are here to give all of our students a voice and the session provided a vehicle for students to share their thoughts."

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