

Happy International Epilepsy Day

Every year on the second Monday of February people join together for [International Epilepsy Day](#), to celebrate and highlight the problems faced by people with epilepsy, their families, and caregivers.

EDI Committee: Introducing our newest member

During our recent Student Voice Conference we received feedback from our students that it would be great to have a student member on the EDI committee.

Please welcome, **Himesh Soni**!



Hello, my name is Himesh Soni. I am a second-year Travel and Tourism student at Brooklands. In addition to my coursework, I engage in reading various non-fiction books. I am also a member of the college's creative writing club. My other interests include playing badminton, cooking, and spending time with friends and family.

I was introduced to the EDI committee by one of its members. After reviewing the details, I found that their focus areas were relevant to me. My goal is to serve as a medium for both staff and students, bringing important matters to attention. I aim to create changes for everyone involved, including myself, and educate others on less-discussed topics.

By sharing my experiences, I hope to demonstrate that support is available.

I will collaborate with staff to raise awareness through workshops, promote understanding of EDI issues, highlight minority backgrounds, and celebrate various cultures and religions. My overall objective is to make the Brooklands experience as inclusive and welcoming as possible. Feel free to approach me with any concerns, and I will do my best to assist. Thank you.

Outcomes from the EDI Workshop on Staff Development Day

Thank you to everybody that attended the EDI workshop on 20 December, and a special thank you to Meisha and Joe for organising an important, yet fun, event. On the day, 82% of us agreed that we do not do enough to celebrate EDI at Brooklands, with 91% of us believing that we could do more. Whilst we identified a large number of positive actions that we undertake, we also identified many areas where we could make improvements.

We will be using these results, along with responses from the Student Voice Conference, to define our EDI strategy and help us shape our future community. Please take the time to read the full results from our Belonging at Brooklands [EDI Workshop](#).

Driving EDI: Brooklands Technical College Staff Pledges 2025



Staff EDI Commitments

We want to express our sincere gratitude for the support you have provided to our EDI initiatives. Your active participation and contributions are truly inspiring. Every effort, from workshops to everyday interactions, makes a difference in building a more equitable and welcoming environment for staff and students.

We were particularly impressed by the number of you that made a commitment in the recent workshop, this engagement is key to real progress. Please find a list of our heroes and the [EDI commitments](#) they have made. If you wish to add to the list, please contact EDI@brooklands.ac.uk.

Building an inclusive culture is a journey, and one that we all have to take together. We thank you for your hard work, openness, and commitment to making our college truly inclusive.

Student Voice Conference: Empowering voices and shaping the future

Our recent Student Voice Conference brought together over 100 students across our campuses, from diverse backgrounds, to discuss key issues like arts and culture, enrichment, the student experience and climate change. Through rotating group discussions, students shared their unique perspectives, ensuring minority voices were heard. This valuable feedback will inform our decisions and be used to create a more equitable and successful college experience for all. Read the full story about the [conference](#).



EDI Impact Assessment Process

We have introduced an EDI impact assessment tool, to evaluate how a proposed policy, practice, or initiative might affect different groups of people based on protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, and sex.



Our goal is to identify potential negative impacts and proactively mitigate them to promote fairness and inclusivity across our college community; essentially, helping to ensure that decisions don't inadvertently disadvantage any specific groups. If you are undertaking a new process, please ask to see the EDI impact assessment to ensure you understand any implications.

Follow these links to see the template for the [EDI Impact Assessment](#), and the [How to complete an EIA](#) document (staff only).

If you have any questions, or are concerned about a piece of work, please drop an email to EDI@brooklands.ac.uk for support.

EDI Celebration Week

EDI Celebration Week is approaching quickly, week commencing **31 March**.

So far, we have formed a core team to help coordinate the event and will be shortly reaching out to those of you that made a commitment to support activities during the week.

The week is to be divided up into 10 sessions, morning and afternoons, each with a different theme. Look out for more information in the next newsletter where we will share details of planned themes and activities for the week, plus opportunities for you to participate.