

Dear Year 11 Students and Parents/Carers,

We hope you are all keeping safe, well and upbeat at this unprecedented and difficult time.

Stuart Worden, Principal at the BRIT School, has sent out a video [message](#) to explain our response to the latest information and guidance from OFQUAL (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) and our revised expectations of Year 11 students. This letter is to explain that message, provide further links for your information and underline some important messages from our last email on 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

### **Updates from OFQUAL about exams**

As you know Year 11 students across the country have been told that their **GCSE** / level 2 exams have been cancelled this summer and further information was provided in a letter to students from OFQUAL on [3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020](#).

We would like you to feel confident that this is being managed strictly according to the OFQUAL [guidance](#). All staff here, working with the exam boards, want to ensure that you get the best grade possible.

Your GCSE exam results will therefore be based on:

1. The grade your teacher/s believe that you would have achieved if you had sat the exams and completed any non-exam assessment including:
  - classwork
  - bookwork
  - any participation in performances in subjects such as music, drama or PE
  - any non-exam assessment – whether or not complete
  - the results of any assignments or mock exams
  - previous examination results – for example, for any re-sitting students or those with relevant GCSE/level 2 qualifications
  - any other records of student performance over the course of study
2. The rank order of students within each subject, at your school or college, by performance. This information will be used to standardise judgements – allowing fine tuning of the standard applied across schools and colleges.

On 9<sup>th</sup> April OFQUAL released a further [update](#) regarding **vocational and technical qualifications**, including BTEC, which states 'the approach being taken with these qualifications is similar to the one being used for General Qualifications (ie. GCSEs).....we expect the approach will involve input from teachers and tutors, at qualification and unit level, to contribute to a calculated result'.

All schools have been told that we **MUST NOT** share our grades with students, parents or carers, under any circumstances, until the final results are issued. Please do not ask.

OFQUAL are hoping to have resits of the exams in the autumn term 2020 and / or next summer in 2021 for any students who would like to take the exams again.

### **Our revised expectations of Year 11**

We have been told by OFQUAL that any work completed after 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (when BRIT School closed due to the impact of the coronavirus) will not count towards your final grade. We will therefore not be continuing to set you work that you would have been doing under normal circumstances.

All strands are working to ensure that you have everything you need for your career progression. Teachers may still set you work online to encourage creativity and keep your mind active and still learning. Keep going with any work set, for example logs, it is helpful for you and your development. If you have a place at the BRIT School Post 16, there may also be some work set by your teachers to help prepare you for your new courses.

Besides this you can be involved in:

**#BRITNow** – a platform to showcase your best creative work over the lockdown period.

***Interested? We want every strand represented so it could be sharing your model box, lighting design, games blueprint, fine art, photography, spoken word, monologues, music, film (max 3mins if possible), animation....***

Please use [wetransfer](https://www.wetransfer.com) as the preferred method to send work for large files to the email [britnow@brit.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:britnow@brit.croydon.sch.uk)

Your tutors will continue to keep in touch to check that you are ok, to pass on any pastoral messages and they remain your first port of call if you have any concerns or questions.

Stay safe and healthy

Always BRIT