

Dear Year 13 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 13 students. This letter is to explain that message, provide further links for your information and underline some important messages from our last email on 3rd April.

Updates from UAL

On 3rd April UAL sent a letter stating that they *'have not released any finalised plans on how final assessment will be conducted, they have outlined their intentions, which is why our message to all students has been to continue working on your project and work set by your strands until we have finalised and concrete information to work from'*. They are currently developing their model to estimate your grade based on previously completed work, and supported by quality assurance checks, to deliver the fairest and most consistent approach to results across the UK this summer 2020. They intend to provide further updates as soon as possible.

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

Updates from OFQUAL about exams

As you know Year 13 students across the country have been told that their A level exams have been cancelled this summer and further information was provided in a letter to students from OFQUAL on [3rd 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 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 AS 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.

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 13

We have been told by OFQUAL that any work completed after 17th March 2020 (when BRIT School closed due to the impact of the coronavirus) will not count towards your final grade. We will however, be continuing to set you work to encourage your continued creativity and development. The work you do now is also important for your health and well-being.

All strands are working to ensure that you have everything you need for your career progression. Teachers will still set you work online to encourage creativity and keep your mind active and still learning. Many are helping you to prepare for your new courses at university, apprenticeships or work. Keep going with any work set, for example logs, it is helpful for your development and therefore your future.

UCAS updates

A big focus for those of you who have applied to university will be UCAS and securing your place. In summary, their latest [update](#) said:

- The admissions process will remain broadly similar - UCAS will receive all results from awarding bodies and after matching qualifications to applicants will send this information on to the relevant universities.
- Your chosen universities and colleges are expected to consider these grades in the same way as any other qualifications.
- The embargo on giving unconditional offers is in place until 20th April

Best of luck with your applications!

Besides this, you can also be involved in sharing your creative talents on BRIT Now:

#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 [wetansfer](#) as the preferred method to send work in large files to the email 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.

Finally, you will have a Graduation Ceremony and leaving celebrations. These will be either at the end of the summer term or in September - we will keep you updated.

Stay safe and healthy

Always BRIT