

Admission Policy & Procedure for 2027/28 Entry

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Author:	Director of Admissions & Student Services & Vice Principal Student Experience
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1. Policy

Admissions Practical Requirements
- Age

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1. Policy

Admissions Practical Requirements

- Age

Students are admitted at:

- **14 years of age for Year 10/ Key Stage 4 (KS4) (after Key Stage 3 (KS3))**
- **16 years of age for Year 12/Post 16 courses (after KS4/GCSEs)**

All ages are as of 1st September in the year of admission.

Applicants who are younger than this or who are two or more years older cannot be considered.

Applicants who are no more than one year older than this (i.e. 15 years of age for KS4 or 17 years of age for Post 16) may apply, and should make clear in their application why they are applying out of their expected age group.

Please note we do not admit students into Years 11 or 13, or mid-year into any year group.

- Numbers & allocation of places:

- Year 10: approximately 200 students - proceeding to Year 11
- Year 12: approximately 520 students - proceeding to Year 13

- Catchment Area

The School's authorised catchment area is all of Greater London.

In addition, the following postal districts **are** included: **BR6 & 8; CR0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; DA1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18; KT4, 6, 9, 17 - 21; RH1, 2, 6 - 11; SM2, 3 & 7; TN13, 14, 16; E18 & E20.**

These postal districts are NOT included: CM13 & 14; EN 4 - 8; HA1 - 8; KT8, RM 1 - 7, 11, 12, 14, 15; UB8 - 10; WD2, 3 & 6.

The School also has a dispensation to give special consideration to applicants of exceptional merit from outside the catchment area (Out of Area - OAR), subject to restricted numbers, provided that they meet the admission criteria in Section 2 and follow the general guidelines for accommodation (see section 9).

2. Admission criteria

The School seeks to admit students who:

- Aim for a life in the world of arts, entertainment and communication or related fields;
- Demonstrate (with evidence) a commitment to the performing, visual or digital arts and their associated technologies, either in performance itself or in associated activities;
- Demonstrate, during the application procedure, a real determination to study, practise and succeed and that they have the drive for the demanding schedule, details of which are set out in each departmental section in the prospectus;
- Demonstrate to the staff they meet or work with during the application procedure that they would benefit from the education The BRIT School offers.

The staff they meet will be assessing:

- The capacity to acquire the necessary skills and to continue to improve;
- An understanding of the career and further education choices towards which joining the School will lead them;
- The relevance of the course to their future career plans;

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- A passion for the art form applied for;
- Access to and impact of relevant current and past activities, including in school;
- Levels of concentration and determination;
- If applying for KS4; if they can demonstrate that they are working with commitment in KS3, and if applying for Post 16 courses, can show that they are working with commitment in KS4;
- If applying for KS4, they are considering a four-year commitment to study.

Please note progression from Key Stage 4 to Post 16 is not automatic.

Equal Opportunities

The School is committed to equal opportunities and admits students across the full spectrum of academic abilities. The aim is that the School should broadly reflect the community of Greater London. All students have equal access to the curriculum, and there is support for students with additional learning needs.

EHCP, LAC and Adopted Applicants

Applicants with an EHCP, LAC (CLA), previously LAC or adopted status:

We are committed to meeting every applicant who has EHCP, LAC (CLA), previously LAC or adopted status and to making reasonable adjustments for that applicant, within our admissions process. Please note that a school can only be named in an EHCP or LAC plan if it is a maintained school or if the school has received approval from the Secretary of State under section 41 of the Children and Families Act. A list of such schools is on the Gov.uk website; The BRIT School is **not** listed.

Therefore, we apply our own admissions policy and are not in the same position as maintained schools.

3. Procedures

Applicant Process

1. View the Prospectus:

Students or parents/carers may obtain a prospectus in any of the following ways:

- By reading via our website.
- By using this link to sign up and attend [The BRIT School Open Events 2026](#).
- From careers conventions in their school or neighbouring schools.

Please note we strongly recommend you attend one of the Open Events, watch the videos on the [School's YouTube Channel](#) and follow @thebritschool on social media (Instagram, TikTok) before applying. This will help you understand how the School works.

2. Choose a Specialism

Applicants must apply for a specific Strand (course). All further arrangements in relation to an application will then be based on this initial choice.

Should a student wish to change their specialism course after submitting their original application form, please send an email to studentservices@brit.croydon.sch.uk stating their name, the Strand they have applied for, and that they would like the application withdrawn. The applicant must start the application procedure again, and it will be treated as a new application, so please ensure that this is received before the deadline date.

Applicants whose applications are not successful at any stage may not apply for a different course unless specifically recommended by the School by email.

3. Submit an Application Form

We require applicants to apply by using the [online application form](#).

The online application form will be available from 1st September 2026 until the relevant Strand or Key Stage deadlines.

Applicants are encouraged to apply well before the deadline dates.

Please note that late applications received after the published date will be added to our waiting list.

There is no guarantee that the application form will be considered by the Strand Director if received after the published deadline.

4. Deadline Dates:

Please check these deadline dates carefully; we will not be able to make exceptions if deadlines are missed because the information has not been read correctly.

Year 12 (Post 16)

Dance, Musical Theatre, Music & Music Technology, Theatre

Sunday 15th November 2026

Year 12 (Post 16)

Applied Theatre, Digital Arts, Film & Media Production, Production Arts, Visual Arts & Design (Route 1)

Fashion, Styling & Textiles (Route 2)

Sunday 17th January 2027

Year 10 (Key Stage 4)

All KS4 courses - Dance, Digital Arts, Film & Media Production, Music, Musical Theatre, Theatre, Visual Arts & Design

Sunday 10th January 2027

5. Confirmation of Submitted Application

Completed and submitted applications will receive an automatic email confirmation of receipt to the applicant and parental email address specified on your application account. If an email is not received, please contact the School.

All applications received by the relevant deadline will be dealt with entirely on their merits. In addition, special consideration can be given to applicants of exceptional merit who are out of the catchment area, up to a maximum of 10% of the intake.

6. Incomplete Applications

When the form is received, applicants submitting incomplete applications will be sent an email informing them that their application is incomplete and requesting the information that is still required. The application will not be processed until this information is supplied.

Applicants who do not submit a completed application in time to be processed by the relevant deadline might find that all places in their chosen specialism have been allocated.

7. Late Applications

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If, on receipt of a late application, all places in the chosen specialism have been allocated, or it appears from the number of applications already underway that all places are likely to have been allocated by the time these applications have been assessed, the application will be placed on a waiting list without being assessed.

If places become available before the start of the academic year, applicants on the waiting list may be invited to continue the procedure as outlined below.

8. Email Addresses

Please ensure that your email addresses provided are correct, as this is how you will be communicated with. We can not be held responsible for missed workshops/meetings due to incorrect information supplied or not responding to emails sent from us.

Please ensure you check your junk/spam folders and fully read any communications from us. We cannot accept responsibility for any missed information. Please make [@brit.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:brit.croydon.sch.uk) and @applicaa.com safe senders with your email provider.

4. School's receipt of the application form

All complete application forms received on time will be reviewed against the criteria in section 2 above, and applications that do not fulfil these criteria may be unsuccessful at this stage:

No applicant with an Education, Health & Care Plan, or those who are Looked After Children (CLA), previously LAC, or adopted children will be excluded from the process at this point.

This is in recognition that young people in these situations might require additional support in order to present themselves most fully. Having reached the workshop/meeting, where appropriate support will be available, these candidates will be assessed against the published criteria in the same way as other candidates.

5. Invitation to a Workshop or Meeting

Depending on which Strand has been applied for, students will be invited to participate in workshops or auditions, usually followed by a structured discussion meeting. If applying for Digital Arts, Visual Arts & Design, or Film and Media courses, applicants will be invited to submit a portfolio and/or complete a pre-task as part of their application, which will determine whether the applicant is invited to the next stage of the admissions process.

If you are applying for Dance, Music, or Music Technology (Post 16 only), you will be required to upload a performance video(s) as part of the application process. Full instructions will be provided as you complete the application form.

The applicant will be informed of the Strand's format, at least two weeks before the due date, whether they have to prepare anything or bring anything to the session. All applicants for a particular specialism will go through the same procedure (e.g. Dance Applicants will have a workshop, all Visual Arts & Design applicants will submit a selection of work, etc).

The session, no matter the format, is intended to be with, and for the benefit of, the applicant. Therefore, parents/carers are requested not to participate. However, parents/carers of KS4 applicants are expected to attend the structured discussion (meeting) that follows in case practical issues of travel and/or accommodation need to be discussed. Parents/carers of Post 16 applicants are also welcome to attend this structured discussion.

Unable to attend a workshop

If an applicant is feeling unwell on the day of the audition/workshop/meeting and decides to attend, they will ordinarily be unable to use this subsequently as grounds for a Phase 2 appeal (see section 10). We will always endeavour to reschedule the meeting if an applicant informs us that they are ill, either on the day or before, by calling the School or by emailing

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studentservices@brit.croydon.sch.uk. If an applicant comes to the meeting, they have decided they are well/fit enough to do their best.

Workshop Dates

The cycle of workshops/meetings will start in December 2026 and then continue up to the end of March 2027. Additional dates may be added after this, depending on application numbers. **Please bear this in mind when booking holidays; we may not be able to reschedule these workshops/meetings due to operational constraints.**

Key Stage 4 workshops and meetings will take place over a fixed three-day period from Wednesday 3rd March 2027 - Friday 5th March 2027.

Please bear this in mind when booking holidays. We are unable to see KS4 applicants at any other time.

The date given for a workshop/meeting cannot be changed unless it is for a previously arranged hospital appointment or public exams (not mock exams). Please contact admissions@brit.croydon.sch.uk with any dates and supporting documentation concerning unavailability for workshop dates.

6. Procedure after workshop/meeting

After each workshop/meeting, decisions are made by a panel of staff, including those who have met the applicant, with a senior curriculum manager. The decision to offer a place is based on the criteria outlined previously.

Where an admissions process involves two stages, applicants will receive email confirmation within 14 days confirming their status and next steps for the second stage.

7. Outcomes

All applicants will be informed by email of the decision outcome as follows:

- An offer of a place, conditional on successful completion of the relevant key stage, **OR**
- An offer with special medical conditions attached, **OR**
- A place on the reserve list, **OR**
- A decision not to offer a place on the course applied for, with a recommendation that the candidate might wish to apply for an alternative course, **OR**
- A decision not to offer a place.

Decision Feedback

Brief feedback to assist in understanding the decision can be provided via a written request after your application process has been completed. Requests for feedback must be received in writing within 14 days of the decision being communicated to the applicant. As the admissions process may still be ongoing, feedback may take some time and may not be processed until the end of the admission/appeal process.

If you intend to apply for a Phase 2 Appeal, we are unable to provide feedback until after that process has concluded.

Decision Timeline

We endeavour to email outcome decisions within four weeks of the meeting date.

Those applying for Strands with a two-round process will have a decision confirmed by email within 14 days of the first round.

If you have attended a workshop/meeting, we politely request you do not contact Student Services for decision information until after this period has passed.

Please note all decisions will be communicated via email only. We will not send any information by letter or telephone.

8. Acceptance of Offer

When offer emails are sent, applicants are given a date by which acceptance of the place offered must be received by the School. If the applicant fails to accept the place by the due date, it will be assumed that they have refused the place.

9. Further Guidelines

Out of Area

Out of Area (OAR) places are very restricted; the School received approximately 11 out of area applications for each out of area place available at Year 12 last year.

Please note that candidates from outside the catchment area need to show exceptional merit to be offered a place; this criterion will be reflected in the decisions made at all stages of the admissions procedure, including the initial assessment of application forms, which would need to demonstrate the candidate's exceptional merit.

The School's authorised catchment area is all of Greater London.

In addition, the following postal districts **are** included: **BR6 & 8; CR0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; DA1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18; KT4, 6, 9, 17 - 21; RH1, 2, 6 - 11; SM2, 3 & 7; TN13, 14, 16; E18 & E20.**

These postal districts are NOT included: CM13 & 14; EN 4 - 8; HA1 - 8; KT8, RM 1 - 7, 11, 12, 14, 15; UB8 - 10; WD2, 3 & 6.

Out of Area (Non-UK/EEA Nationals)

We welcome applications from students who will be resident in the UK by the start of their study programme.

As a state-funded City College for the Technology of the Arts (CCTA), The BRIT School is unable to sponsor Student Visas (formerly Tier 4). In line with Department for Education guidance, parents and carers are responsible for ensuring that their immigration status or visa permits study at a state-funded school in England.

So that places offered are not wasted, the School will not finalise an offer to any student resident overseas unless they have a right of residence in the UK or evidence demonstrates that the student will be resident before the course start date. Proof of eligibility will be required before enrolment.

We regret we are unable to accept applications for Post 16 studies from students residing in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands.

Issues of Accommodation

Please note that The BRIT School is a day school and does not offer boarding facilities. For safeguarding and child welfare reasons, enrolled students under the age of 16 must reside within a reasonable daily commute with a parent, legal guardian, or qualifying adult relative. It has a large catchment area and the school day is longer than other schools. Students should preferably live within approximately one-hour's travelling distance to school.

KS4 students should not move away from home to achieve a one-hour travelling time, except when accommodation can be found with close relatives, who must then take on the day-to-day support of the student at the School.

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Post 16 students may live away from home if necessary, but parents must take responsibility for their accommodation being satisfactory, and make sure that the day-to-day support for the student is in place.

School Terms

The BRIT School year consists of **five terms of approximately eight weeks, so BRIT School holidays do not always coincide with other institutions.**

The BRIT School does not give permission for BRIT School students to take vacations during term time.

Offers of Places

Offers of places at The BRIT School are made during the preceding academic year. Therefore, it is important that the applicant, having been offered a place, does not drop their current standards of work and commitment in their current school.

Offers of places at The BRIT School are contingent on the previous Key Stage having been completed well: i.e. in the case of KS4 applicants, KS3 must be completed well; in the case of Post 16 applicants (including BRIT School internal applicants) KS4 must be completed well.

If there is doubt as to the student's medical capacity to undertake a course, an offer may be contingent on the results of a medical assessment.

Conclusion

It is essential that the above guidelines are understood and acted upon to enable the student to concentrate on their studies. Failure to do so could result in a student not being admitted to the School.

10. Admissions Appeals

The objectives of the Admissions Appeals Policy and Procedure are to ensure that:

- The School's admissions appeals procedures are clear throughout the process of admissions, and the proper procedures are followed.

There are three situations in which an appeal can be made against a decision made by the School:

- An appeal against a decision not to be invited for an initial workshop and/or meeting known as a "Phase 1 Appeal".
- An applicant seeking a second opportunity for a meeting/workshop following a decision not to offer a place, or a place with special conditions, or a place on the Reserve list, after the first meeting/workshop known as a "Phase 2 Appeal".
- A final appeal to the Chair of Governors after the Phase 2 appeal meeting/workshop phase has been completed, known as a "Final Appeal".

Phase 1 Appeal

If an applicant appeals against a decision not to be invited for an initial workshop and meeting, their application form will be reviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will either confirm the original decision or move the application to the next stage. Please note, we are unable to give feedback at this point in the admissions process.

Appeals must be received using an online form found [here](#) within 14 days of the date of the decision being communicated. We are unable to provide written feedback for these applications.

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Phase 2 Appeal

If, after the first meeting/workshop, an applicant is not offered a place, or a place with special conditions, or a place on the Reserve list, the applicant may seek a second opportunity for a meeting/workshop through a Phase 2 appeal (the link will be available on your Application Account) within 14 days of the date of the decision documentation.

To be clear, we are unable to accept verbal, emailed, or written requests for appeals.

The applicant must refer to the admissions criteria and should clearly explain why they were unable to demonstrate the criteria on the day, and why they believe the Phase 2 appeal should be allowed.

Please note that we fully understand that the admissions process and meeting can be nerve-wracking and that we will always try to put the applicant at ease when meeting them. Nerves will be taken into consideration for every applicant; therefore, nerves are not grounds for requesting a Phase 2 appeal.

Phase 2 appeals will not ordinarily be allowed on the basis that the applicant felt unwell on the day of the first meeting/workshop. An applicant who feels unwell should ask that the meeting/workshop be rescheduled by contacting the Admissions Team via phone (020 8664 5242) or email:

admissions@brit.croydon.sch.uk

Please note we are unable to provide feedback on the first meeting/workshop if you wish to appeal until after the Phase 2 process has concluded.

Please note that the School rigorously quality-assures the Phase 2 appeal process so that all panels work to the same standards and criteria, both on the day of the first meeting/workshop and at any Phase 2 appeal meeting.

Phase 2 appeal meetings/workshops are conducted by a teacher from the relevant department and a senior member of staff.

During all meetings/workshops, the School will use its professional judgement of applicants, based on the criteria laid out in the admissions policy.

Please note that candidates from outside the catchment area need to show exceptional merit to be offered a place; this criterion will be reflected in the decisions made at all stages of the admissions and appeals procedure. Therefore, being out-of-area does not constitute appropriate grounds for appeal.

The date given for a Phase 2 appeal workshop/meeting cannot be changed unless it is for a previously arranged hospital appointment or public exam (not mock exams).

You must be prompt for this meeting as we are unable to reschedule if you miss the allocated time slot.

Final Appeal

If, after the Phase 2 appeal workshop/meeting, an applicant is not offered a place or a place with the special conditions referred to in the Further Guidelines of the Admission Policy, an appeal under the Final Appeal stage of the appeals process may be made (the link will be available on your Application Account).

A Final Appeal may only be made on the grounds that the School has not followed its own admissions procedure. This is referred to as the "Permitted Grounds".

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Any appeal not made on Permitted Grounds will not be allowed to proceed. It is therefore very important that the form requesting a Final Appeal must state clearly how the School has not followed its own procedure in reaching a decision not to admit an applicant.

A Final Appeal must be made in writing to the Chair of Governors by using the online form (link will be supplied in Phase 2 appeal decision email) to arrive at the School within 14 days of the decision being communicated to the applicant.

In the case of Key Stage 4 applicants, the parent/carer must complete the form.

In the case of Post 16 applicants, either the applicant or their parent/carer may complete the form.

You must state clearly the grounds for appeal in the relevant section on the form. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt.

If the Chair of Governors considers that the appeal is made on Permitted Grounds, it will be considered by an appeals panel:

- An appeals panel consists of three people, including a chair who is independent of the School, supported by a clerk who is also independent of the School.
- The appellant and School will both be required to submit evidence by a set date ahead of the meeting, and the panel may restrict the addition of further evidence after this date.
- The panel may undertake such enquiry into the matter as it considers appropriate and necessary to reach a determination.

The panel also may choose to invite the appellant and/or parent/carer to a meeting if this is considered necessary to better understand the grounds for the request or because the panel wishes to ask questions of the appellant or parent/carer.

After careful consideration of the request for a review and any representations made by the appellant, parent/carer and the School, the panel will conclude by:

- upholding the original decision not to offer the applicant a place,
- or, provided that there is sufficient evidence before the panel that the applicant meets the required artistic standard, determine that the appellant should be:
 - offered a place [although please note that the appeal panel will not introduce its own tests to assess artistic suitability].
 - referring the application for admission back to the School to be considered afresh.

The decision of the panel, which is final, will be communicated via email. There will be no further right of appeal at this point.