

How has exam and grading confusion impacted upon Year 13 vocational students in the Class of 2021?

Students taking BTEC Sport and Science were awarded CAGs for exam units they would have taken in May 2020, with an option to take these exams in January 2021 if they so wish. For BTEC Sport, two exam units are still to be taken for the first time in January 2021 (as had been planned before school closure), and all BTEC students have the option to retake any exam at this time too in order to improve their grade. This will not only increase their exam load in Year 13 but it will make predicting grades for those qualifications harder. Conversely, for those vocational students who were awarded CAGs, the re-grading undertaken by Pearson after initial results were released has left some students with what could be described as grades that their teachers might not have predicted; this, too, will make predicting final overall grades harder for teachers, before the UCAS deadline in January 2021.