

GCE Subject Level Guidance for Physical Education

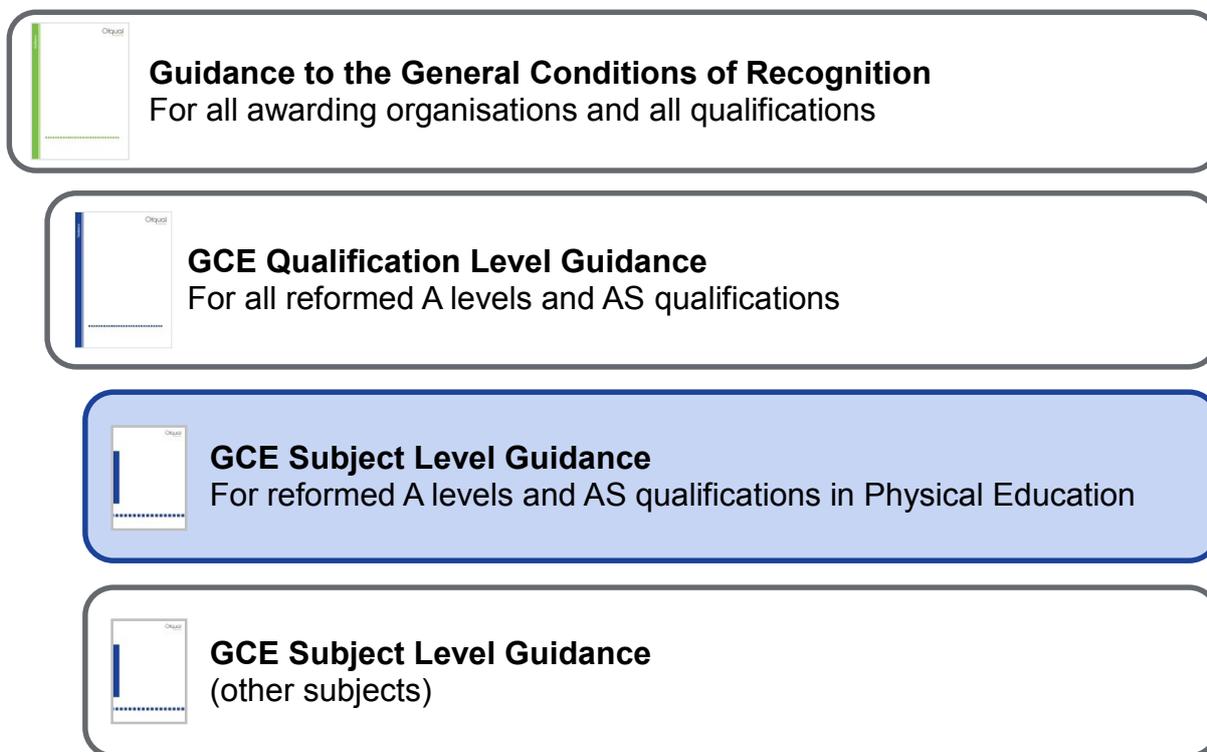
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Introduction

This document (highlighted in the figure below) is part of a suite of documents which outlines our guidance for awarding organisations offering GCE Qualifications.



This document sets out guidance which applies to the following qualifications:

- all GCE A levels in Physical Education awarded on or after 1 April 2018; and
- all standalone GCE AS qualifications in Physical Education awarded on or after 1 April 2017.

This guidance supports the *GCE Subject Level Conditions and Requirements for Physical Education*.¹

This document constitutes guidance for the purposes of section 153 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (the '2009 Act') and Condition GCE(Physical Education)1.2.

An awarding organisation has a legal obligation under the 2009 Act to have regard to this guidance in relation to each GCE Qualification in Physical Education that it

¹ www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-subject-level-conditions-and-requirements-for-physical-education

makes available or proposes to make available. Condition GCE(Physical Education)1.2 imposes the same obligation in respect of the guidance below which is issued under that Condition.

An awarding organisation should use the guidance to help it understand how to comply with the *GCE Subject Level Conditions and Requirements for Physical Education*.

Guidance set out in this document

This document provides guidance on assessment objectives for GCE Qualifications in Physical Education.
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Guidance on assessment objectives for GCE Qualifications in Physical Education

Condition GCE(Physical Education)1.2 allows us to specify requirements and guidance relating to assessment objectives for GCE Qualifications in Physical Education.

We published our requirements in relation to assessment objectives in *GCE Subject Level Conditions and Requirements for Physical Education*, and reproduce them in the table below.

	Objective	Weighting (A level)	Weighting (AS)
AO1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin performance and involvement in physical activity and sport	20–25%	20–25%
AO2	Apply knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin performance and involvement in physical activity and sport	20–25%	20–25%
AO3	Analyse and evaluate the factors that underpin performance and involvement in physical activity and sport	20–25%	20–25%
AO4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Demonstrate and apply relevant skills and techniques in physical activity and sport ■ Analyse and evaluate performance 	30%	30%

We set out below our guidance for the purposes of Condition GCE(Physical Education)1.2. This guidance explains how we expect awarding organisations to interpret these assessment objectives in terms of:

- the discrete ‘strands’ within each of the assessment objectives;
- the discrete ‘elements’ within each assessment objective and its strands that questions and tasks could target and/or seek to credit;
- the coverage expectations, such as in relation to the different elements within each assessment objective and how those elements should be sampled over time; and

- the key areas of emphasis in each assessment objective and the particular meaning for the subject of any key terms and phrases used; defined terms are shown in bold text, followed by their definitions.

In line with the obligations set out in Condition GCE(Physical Education)1.2, we expect awarding organisations to be able to demonstrate how they have had regard to this guidance. For example, an awarding organisation could map how it has regard to the guidance as it:

- develops its sample assessment materials;
- delivers the qualification;
- develops and applies its approach to sampling the elements into which the assessment objectives are divided; and
- monitors the qualification to make sure it addresses all elements appropriately.

AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin performance and involvement in physical activity and sport		20–25% (A level) 20–25% (AS)	
Strands	Elements	Coverage	Agreements and definitions
n/a	This AO is a single element.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Full coverage in each set of assessments² (but not in every assessment). ■ No more than 15% of the total marks for the qualification should reward demonstrating knowledge in isolation.³ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Questions/tasks may target knowledge in isolation, but understanding should normally be assessed in combination with knowledge. ■ Questions/tasks may target performance and/or involvement in combination or individually. ■ Questions/tasks may target sport and/or physical activity in combination or individually.

² For the purposes of this guidance, a 'set of assessments' means the assessments to be taken by a particular Learner for a GCE Qualification in Physical Education. For clarity, the assessments taken by Learners may vary, depending on any possible routes through the qualification.

³ Marks which 'reward demonstrating knowledge in isolation' means any mark awarded solely for recalling facts or other knowledge that is part of the specification. It does not include marks awarded for selecting appropriate knowledge (for example, to evidence an argument), or for applying knowledge to a particular context.

AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin performance and involvement in physical activity and sport		20–25% (A level) 20–25% (AS)	
Strands	Elements	Coverage	Agreements and definitions
n/a	This AO is a single element.	Full coverage in each set of assessments (but not in every assessment).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The emphasis here is on the ability of the Learner to apply their knowledge and understanding to make connections between theory and practice. ■ In the context of this assessment objective, knowledge and understanding are both prerequisites for application and should be assessed together. ■ Questions/tasks may target performance and/or involvement in combination or individually. ■ Questions/tasks may target sport and/or physical activity in combination or individually.

AO3: Analyse and evaluate the factors that underpin performance and involvement in physical activity and sport		20–25% (A level) 20–25% (AS)	
Strands	Elements	Coverage	Agreements and definitions
n/a	1a – Analyse the factors that underpin performance and involvement in physical activity and sport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Full coverage in each set of assessments (but not in every assessment). ■ Balanced coverage of elements 1a and 1b. Awarding organisations should justify the balance between these elements in their assessment strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Questions/tasks may target performance and/or involvement in combination or individually. ■ Questions/tasks may target sport and/or physical activity in combination or individually.
	1b – Evaluate the factors that underpin performance and involvement in physical activity and sport.		

AO4:			30% (A level) 30% (AS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Demonstrate and apply relevant skills and techniques in physical activity and sport ■ Analyse and evaluate performance 			
Strands	Elements	Coverage	Agreements and definitions
1 – Demonstrate and apply relevant skills and techniques in physical activity and sport.	This strand is a single element.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Full coverage in each set of assessments (but not in every assessment). ■ Balanced coverage of elements 2a and 2b. Awarding organisations should justify the balance between elements 2a and 2b in their assessment strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In the context of this assessment objective, demonstrate means the practical demonstration of skills and techniques in a performance. ■ Skills and techniques are interchangeable terms and refer to those outlined in paragraph 18 of ‘Physical Education GCE AS and A level Subject Content’⁴ document reference DFE-00696-2014 (the ‘Content Document’). ■ Analyse and evaluate should include theoretical content. ■ Within strand 2, Learners should be expected to provide recommendations to bring about improvement(s), but should not be assessed on whether or not improvement occurs.
	2 – Analyse and evaluate performance.		

⁴ www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-as-and-a-level-physical-education

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