

Q	What exam board do we study?
A	We follow the AQA GCSE Physical Education (8582) specification and greater detail about the course can be found here .
Q	Is the subject over-subscribed?
A	Yes. We currently have 2 groups in both Year 10 and Year 11
Q	Do I need to put PE as my first option if it is my first choice?
A	The choice is yours. There is a chance however that by putting PE (or any of your 1 st choice subjects) as your second option, particularly if normally over-subscribed, you may not be allocated this. The School will do all they can to give you your preferred subjects
Q	Am I suited for GCSE PE?
A	This is very much a question for your PE teacher and I would suggest if you have any concerns, you contact them as soon as possible. For girls, please contact Miss Bowtell, Miss Bradley or Miss Smith and for boys, Mr Chamberlain, Mr Graves, Mr Bowers or Mr Ray.
Q	Are all lessons undertaken in the classroom?
A	No. Of the 5 lessons you have for GCSE PE, 3 will be classroom based and 2 practical. Year 11 starts in a similar manner but the focus becomes more classroom based during January of Year 11.
Q	What subjects that I have done at KS3 may help with the theoretical content of GCSE PE?
A	Science and English
Q	My family say that GCSE PE isn't an academic subject. Are they right?
A	No. 60% of the course is based on theoretical content covering a wide range of topic areas, such as Biology, Physics, Sociology, Psychology - all applied to sport. It is as complex and challenging as any other course. There is also an analysis and evaluation task that is a significant written piece of coursework worth a further 10% of your final grade.
Q	What sports activities are undertaken in lessons?
A	Currently, students follow either badminton or handball at the start of Year 10. Volleyball is undertaken in the Spring term and athletics for the majority in the Summer. Team games such as football and hockey are normally assessed via school practices or specific after-school assessment sessions. All will follow netball in Year 11.
Q	Do I need to be competing in competitive sport outside of school?
A	It would be expected that you are following at least one sport competitively outside of school. This is not always possible but ultimately you are assessed on your ability as a sportsman/woman. Therefore, it would be expected you actively play outside the school environment. Please speak with your teacher if unsure as there are a number of sports not undertaken in school that you can be assessed in.
Q	Does playing for the school team count?
A	This depends on the sport, and is worth speaking to your PE teacher about.

Q	Do I have to pick the 3 sports I will be assessed in?
A	No. You will be assessed at school in a number of sports and can be assessed in any number you choose outside school. That said, you should know at least one sport that you will be able to be assessed in – the one that you participate in at a club, but the 3 sports are not confirmed until Year 11. Ultimately, the 3 highest scores will be submitted but this must include 1 team and 1 individual activity.
Q	Can an activity be submitted for the course that I do outside school?
A	Yes, as long as it is on the approved list set out by the exam board (see link above, pages 46-49) and you are able to fulfil the assessment criteria stipulated by them (pages 51-221).
Q	I like PE but I'm not very good at the sports we do and am in group 4. Is it suitable for me?
A	Speak with your PE teacher. Your sporting ability is important and will unquestionably impact on your final grade but we may not be aware of activities you do outside school. If for example, you are a dancer, ice skater or kayaker/canoer, if you swim or ski, or play golf to a good standard, there is a chance we will not know. All can be used, so please do speak with your teacher and check the specification (via the link above, pages 46-49 for further details).
Q	How do I get activities such as equestrian/skiing assessed outside of school?
A	The exam board lay out specific criteria that must be fulfilled. This can be found in the specification but filmed evidence must be submitted and sometimes further information from a coach/instructor would be needed. Should you follow the course, further guidance can be provided but you will need to be organised and ensure that you generate video evidence of you performing in these sports. This can begin as soon as you start the course in Year 10.
Q	Can I be assessed in an activity outside school even though it is being undertaken in school?
A	To ensure the integrity of results given to the exam board and complete the internal moderation process required, additional evidence may be submitted particularly if performing at a higher level. However, ultimately the school must ensure external marks are in-line with those given for the same activity in school and therefore the PE department would finalise the mark for the activity.
Q	What is the cost of the trip to Skipton and is it compulsory?
A	It is not compulsory. Approximately 75% of students attend and it is in the region of £290. It provides assessment in road cycling and rock-climbing. Many students have used one or both of these activities alongside a team game for their assessment. This is one aspect that can assist the less sporty individuals who are set on following GCSE PE. Whilst there are no plans not to offer this trip in (March/April of) 2025, there are no guarantees that this will run; it is number dependent.
Q	Is GCSE PE really worth it – What are the benefits?
A	Links well with the sciences, sociology and psychology at A Level. Develops a good understanding of the human body and physical conditioning. Develops teamwork, communication skills and confidence. Provides a good understanding of content that can lead to numerous different degrees and jobs.

Recent Bourne Grammar GCSE (and A-Level) PE students have progressed to a wide range of degree courses or employment including: Medicine, Physiotherapy, Journalism, Business, Law, Teaching, Armed Forces, Food Nutrition, Psychology, Chemistry, Marine biology ...and the list continues...

Physical Education – Keeping your options oPEn