

Controlled Assessment guidance

GCSE Physical Education



Units 2, 4 and 6: The Active Participant

Controlled Assessment is the new GCSE Physical Education form of internal assessment. At AQA, we are providing Physical Education teachers with an overview of the Controlled Assessment process to give you the support you need to make a smooth transition into the new internal assessment process.

The Controlled Assessment process has three stages:

- **task setting**
- **task taking**
- **task marking.**

Each stage has a control level (High, Medium or Low), which has been defined by QCA for all awarding bodies.

For more information on GCSE Physical Education see:

- aqa.org.uk/Physed2009
- the following sections of the GCSE Physical Education Specification (4890):
 - 3.2 (Activities available for assessment in Units 2, 4 and 6)
 - 3.3 (Units 2, 4 and 6: The Active Participant)
 - 3.5 (Unit 6: Practical work)
 - 3.6 (Role requirements and assessment criteria for Units 2, 4 and 6)
 - 3.7 (Core skills criteria for Units 2, 4 and 6 for player/performer)
 - 6 (Controlled Assessment Administration).

Section A: Task setting

Level of control: Limited

- There is a broad range of assessment tasks (ie sports/physical activities and roles within them) in which candidates can choose to be assessed.
- For a list of permitted physical activities see section 3.2 of the Specification.
- Sections 3.6 and 3.7 of the Specification outline the skill areas to be addressed in these assessment tasks.
- Where a candidate wants to be assessed in an activity not on the list, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss the possibility of modifying the core skills and tasks of a listed activity.

Candidates must complete:

- two practical assessments for the Short Course
- four practical assessments for the Full Course
- eight practical assessments for the Double Award.

They must perform a certain number of these within the role of player/performer:

- one for the Short Course
- two for the Full Course and Double Award

and cover a stated range of activity groups:

- two for the Short Course and Full Course
- three for the Double Award.



Section B: Task taking

Level of control: Medium

Authentication

You must be able to confirm that the work submitted by each candidate is their own unaided work. To ensure this can be done, all work, with the exception of research, must be completed under informal supervision.

Section 3.3, page 15 of the GCSE Physical Education Specification states:

'Students' work is to be completed under informal supervision, that is, under a sufficient level of supervision to ensure that the contribution of candidates can be recorded accurately and that plagiarism does not take place. Early preparatory work for the development stage and research undertaken to help develop ideas may be completed with a lower level of supervision'.

To enable this to be done you must ensure that:

- in cases of collaborative work, the contributions of individual candidates are recorded accurately
- plagiarism does not take place
- work can be authenticated as the candidate's own
- sources used by candidates are clearly recorded and acknowledged.

Since the Controlled Assessment in Physical Education covers various roles and activities, this guidance applies in different levels and ways to the available roles and activities. For all assessments, it is important to distinguish between:

- early research and preparation activities in which candidates develop the skills that will be assessed at a later date
- the assessed work itself.

As players/performers, students develop core skills through their preparatory work ie:

- practice and training within your centre
- extra-curricular provision outside your centre.



To provide authentication of practical performances you need to observe and assess an unprompted performance (see the guidance on feedback) and confirm in writing that the student has reached the marks recorded for them.

For certain roles and activities, students' early preparatory work may require more work of a research nature. In such cases, candidates **do not** need to be constantly under your direct supervision. It is expected, however, that any work submitted for assessment will be carried out in the classroom or under at least informal supervision. This will enable you to state with confidence that the work submitted has not been plagiarised or downloaded from an Internet site. You will, for example, need to ensure that the development of choreography or the planning stages of the organisation and leading of activities represent the candidate's own work.

Research may be completed under limited supervision, which means that candidates can gather materials and information for a project or task outside the classroom. For example, they may watch a performance of a dance or read relevant materials. This process is important to encourage learning outside the classroom. The presentation of these materials, however, (eg the presentation of a dance choreographed by another person, submitted by a candidate assessed as a choreographer in dance) will not be sufficient to fulfill the assessable outcomes.

Please refer to Section 6 – Controlled Assessment Administration – of the GCSE Physical Education Specification.

Feedback to candidates

- You can review candidates' progress in their chosen roles and activities to encourage them to develop their skills in appropriate areas throughout the course.
- Guidance on areas for improvement in skills and tactics may be provided in extra-curricular sporting activities by coaches from outside the centre.
- During a practical assessment, you should **not** give guidance that would affect the mark submitted for that candidate.

A clear distinction must be drawn between:

- providing feedback to candidates as part of their progress throughout the course
- prompting them to adapt their performance during the assessment.

For activities and roles with a planning or design element:

- you may give advice on **broad** areas for improvement
- you should **not** provide advice on **specific** improvements that could help candidates' work meet the assessment criteria to a greater extent.

Any support or feedback given to individual candidates **which has not been provided to the class as a whole** must be clearly recorded on the Candidate Record Forms.

Time limits

Candidates will be assessed for their performance during a time frame which reflects the length of a:

- session
- clear session component
- game
- game segment

expected in an appropriate competition/authentic context. This will take into account any differences allowable for adaptations to meet the needs of candidates with disabilities.

Working with others

Where tasks require planning and design, candidates may work with others and find it valuable to do so. However, you must ensure that the work represents the achievements of the individual candidate.

Use of resources

Candidates can use resources provided by your centre. If any students require special equipment, your Exams Officer should contact our Exams Office Support for guidance.

Section C: Task marking

Level of control: Medium

You should mark the Controlled Assessment using the assessment criteria in our Specification. If you have any questions about these please contact our Controlled Assessment Advisers for the Specification.

We will moderate this work in accordance with QCA Code of Practice requirements. Visiting moderators normally assess a sample of candidates in at least two activities and two roles to ensure that teacher marking is in line with the national standard for the Specification.

We are here to help you

If you would like further information or advice please contact the AQA Physical Education department at:

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aqa.org.uk/Physed2009



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