

GCSE PE FAQs

- 1. What is the difference between choosing PE in the 3 hour or 2 hour group (practical option)?**
 - A. In short – not a lot! Both will achieve the same qualification, with the same content learnt. However the 2 hour group will be required to do more independent learning to make up the shortfall in hours. The 3 hour group will also have more opportunity for practical lessons across the year. Both options will however have an hour of core PE a week devoted to your GCSE PE sports.

- 2. How shall I choose between GCSE and BTEC?**
 - A. How they are assessed is the main difference, with GCSE being made up in the majority by the two exams sat at the end of year 11. Whereas BTEC PE has more ongoing assignments throughout the year and one exam (which allows one retake). If you are a strong practical performer then GCSE is more rewarding of this, whereas you will only need two sports for BTEC PE and only basic skills are required. Both courses will have similar content, however BTEC PE offers a coaching unit whereas GCSE PE will study more in depth into the socio-cultural aspects of sport (reasons why people take part in sport, sports psychology, and ethical issues in sport etc.). If in doubt check with your PE teacher, they might be able to advise!

- 3. How would I be assessed in PE?**
 - A. There will be two 1-hour exams in which you will be assessed for the theory side of the course. This will make up 60% of your GCSE. For each sport you will also perform a practical moderation assessment around Easter time of year 11, but practical assessments will be ongoing throughout the 2 years. Each sport is worth 10%, therefore representing 30% in total. The final 10% is assessed through a piece of coursework, in which you carry out an evaluation and analysis of performance (in the sport of your choice) within lesson time.

- 4. Do I need to play all my three sports outside of school?**
 - A. No, but the more exposure you have to those sports the greater chance of achieving higher grades. Likewise if you compete to a high level in one sport and this takes up a lot of your time then you may have to make this up by playing the other two in school. Each sport does require a sports log (a record of your competitive matches/competition), this is essential in order to achieve higher grades but can be achieved through school sport/house sport and sports day.

- 5. How many hours a week of practical PE do I get?**
 - A. 1 hour of core PE a week (in a GCSE only group) and 1 additional hour per fortnight for the 3 hour group. The course is 70% theory and therefore you have to be prepared to learn in the classroom as well as on the sports field.

- 6. I play a sport outside of school that we don't play in school, is this still ok?**
 - A. Of course! There are a long list of possible sports (all listed below). If we are not able to do these in school, for example swimming, golf, boxing, skiing etc, you will be required to collect filmed evidence of this outside of school instead.

7. Will I need to film my sports outside of school?

- A. Unless it is a sport that we cannot assess in school, no filmed evidence is necessary unless you believe that evidence of you playing club level competition might show you at a higher level.

8. What if I only have two sports that I play?

- A. We offer opportunities to take on handball or badminton as the two main back-up options. However you will need to commit to playing these sports as much as possible and attending after school clubs in order to improve and achieve a good grade. BTEC PE is also another option as this only requires the two.

9. Do I need to be really good at science?

- A. There are aspects of the course that you may also study in Biology, for example the cardiovascular, respiratory, muscular and skeletal systems. Therefore learning these in PE can also benefit your GCSE Science, likewise being good at science will also benefit your PE! Having said that we learn these topics from a very practical/sporting stance and therefore you might even find them easier!

For any questions not answered here, please feel free to email Mr Harmer (dharmar@stbarts.co.uk).

Please see below a list of all the current accepted GCSE PE sports. Remember you must have one team activity, one individual activity, and then one further sport from either list.

Team:

Acrobatic Gymnastics
Badminton (doubles)
Basketball
Camogie
Cricket
Dance (paired or group)
Figure Skating (paired)
Football
Futsal (cannot be used with football)
Gaelic Football
Handball
Hockey
Hurling
Ice Hockey
Inline Roller Hockey
Lacrosse
Netball
Rowing
Rugby League
Rugby Union
Sailing
Sculling
Squash
Table Cricket
Table Tennis (doubles)
Tennis (doubles)
Volleyball
Water Polo

Individual:

Amateur boxing
Athletics
Badminton
Canoeing
Cross country running
Cycling
Dance
Diving
Equestrian
Figure skating
Golf
Gymnastics
Kayaking
Rock Climbing
Sailing
Sculling
Skiing
Snowboarding
Squash
Swimming
Table Tennis
Tennis
Trampolining
Windsurfing

Disabled only:

Blind Cricket
Goalball
Powerchair football
Wheelchair Basketball
Wheelchair Rugby
Boccia

Please choose wisely and be aware that certain sports cannot be assessed with others, for example:

Rugby league and union
Football and futsal
Dance and figure skating
Singles and doubles of the same sport
Athletics and cross-country

For more information please see the following website or contact Mr Harmer.

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/234827-guide-to-non-exam-assessment-gcse.pdf>