



ST MARY'S COLLEGE

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: GCSE Physical Education Key Information

Exam Dates and Revision

In order to fully support your child in the lead up to their GCSE theory exams which will take place on **Monday 24th May and Friday 2nd July**, the Physical Education department are holding revision sessions out of timetable hours. The revision sessions will take place at the following times:

Year 11 – E3 - Monday lunchtime and Wednesday lunchtime: 12.35-1.15pm

Year 10 – OSH1 - Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime: 12.35-1.15pm.

Each session will offer the opportunity to focus on particular topic areas in depth, receive exam practise and ask key questions about the exam paper. This will provide your child with the opportunity to fully prepare for their exam and achieve the best possible outcome. We are aware that other subject areas may also have revision at this time, but we recommend that your child uses their time effectively to attend at least one session a week.

Your support in encouraging your child to attend these sessions will be greatly appreciated.

Practical Assessment

As you will be aware, there is little to no practical sport occurring at the moment which makes it very difficult to assess pupils practically. Therefore, the exam board (AQA) have reduced the amount of practical activities each child will be assessed; it is now just **two activities** rather than three. We understand this will still leave some concerns regarding little opportunity to practice or perform given the current climate. We would like to reassure you that we share these concerns and AQA are constantly reviewing the assessment process to ensure that your child is not at a disadvantage due to the current climate. However, there are some steps we can take to ensure we are not in a compromising position.

This folder includes the specification where the practical sports your child will be assessed in are listed. The specification provides you with all the key information regarding the two parts to practical assessment; skills and context.

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It is essential that your child is familiar with the requirements contained within the higher (4/5) grade descriptors for both skill and context elements. As we have a significant number of pupils that take part in their strongest sport(s) outside of school, we are therefore asking for your support in collating video footage of games/competitions as and when they may happen, if at all, to evidence only the 'context' element of the practical assessment. The reason for this is that it is likely your child will perform better in an external context against participants of a similar ability to ensure they are appropriately challenged. This will demonstrate your child's practical ability and give them the best opportunity to access the higher marks. The skill component will be filmed and assessed in school.

Therefore, we would greatly appreciate your support in gathering video footage that meets the following criteria:

- At least one full game/full routine.
- Pupil(s) must be easily identifiable.
- Footage must follow play but not affect the quality of the footage i.e. if the ball is moving from one end to the other quickly, zoom out to film a larger area of the playing area to avoid blurring.

If you do not have a device to film, please let us know and we can provide you with the necessary equipment to do so. Ideally, we will need the footage on an external storage device such as a disc or USB memory stick. We can then return the device once we have downloaded the footage.

Finally, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact.

Kind regards,

H. Jordan

Miss H Jordan
KS4 Coordinator