GCE AS Examiners' Report

Physical Education

AS Level

Summer 2026

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Introduction

Our Principal Examiners' report provides valuable feedback on the recent assessment series. It has been written by our Principal Examiners and Principal Moderators after the completion of marking and moderation, and details how candidates have performed in each component.

This report opens with a summary of candidates' performance, including the assessment objectives/skills/topics/themes being tested, and highlights the characteristics of successful performance and where performance could be improved. It then looks in detail at each unit, pinpointing aspects that proved challenging to some candidates and suggesting some reasons as to why that might be.[1]

The information found in this report provides valuable insight for practitioners to support their teaching and learning activity. We would also encourage practitioners to share this document – in its entirety or in part – with their learners to help with exam preparation, to understand how to avoid pitfalls and to add to their revision toolbox.

Further support

Document	Description	Link
Professional Learning / CPD	Eduqas offers an extensive programme of online and face-to-face Professional Learning events. Access interactive feedback, review example candidate responses, gain practical ideas for the classroom and put questions to our dedicated team by registering for one of our events here.	https://www.eduqas.co.uk/home/professional-learning/
Past papers	Access the bank of past papers for this qualification, including the most recent assessments. Please note that we do not make past papers available on the public website until 12 months after the examination.	Portal by WJEC or on the Eduqas subject page
Grade boundary information	Grade boundaries are the minimum number of marks needed to achieve each grade. For linear specifications, a single grade is awarded for the subject, rather than for each component that contributes towards the overall grade. Grade boundaries are published on results day.	For unitised specifications click here: Results and Grade Boundaries and PRS (eduqas.co.uk)

[1] ***Please note that where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.***

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Exam Results Analysis	Eduqas provides information to examination centres via the WJEC Portal. This is restricted to centre staff only. Access is granted to centre staff by the Examinations Officer at the centre.	Portal by WJEC
Classroom Resources	Access our extensive range of FREE classroom resources, including blended learning materials, exam walk-throughs and knowledge organisers to support teaching and learning.	https://resources.eduqas.co.uk/
Bank of Professional Learning materials	Access our bank of Professional Learning materials from previous events from our secure website and additional pre-recorded materials available in the public domain.	Portal by WJEC or on the Eduqas subject page.
Become an examiner with WJEC.	We are always looking to recruit new examiners or moderators. These opportunities can provide you with valuable insight into the assessment process, enhance your skill set, increase your understanding of your subject and inform your teaching.	Become an Examiner | Eduqas

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Executive Summary

Overall, this qualification has a low entry, where the NEA (practical) is stable and this year's cohort performed very similar to 2024 in the examination. Candidates demonstrated secure knowledge and understanding and centres delivered the qualification effectively. Strengths were evident in recall, organisation and coursework quality, while areas for development remain in higher-order skills, application and evidencing top-band performance.

Component 1

An accessible paper with the mean similar to 2024 series. Candidate performance was generally strong on questions assessing knowledge and understanding. Most candidates accurately identified, defined, and described key concepts such as VO_2 max, skill, hinge joints and the inverted U theory. Descriptive responses on topics including arousal, aggression, and participation in sport were often well developed, demonstrating a solid grasp of core content.

Performance was more variable on questions requiring application, analysis and evaluation.

Candidates sometimes struggled to clearly distinguish between similar concepts (e.g. cardiovascular vs muscular endurance; proactive vs retroactive interference) and to apply knowledge in specific sporting contexts.

In extended responses, command words such as "discuss" were not always fully addressed, with limited balance or contextual examples restricting access to higher marks.

Overall, candidates would benefit from further development of exam technique, particularly in applying theory, using relevant examples and constructing balanced evaluative responses to access top-band marks.

Component 2

The NEA component continues to be delivered effectively, with centres demonstrating strong administration, communication, and adherence to moderation procedures.

Live moderation was successfully implemented, supported where appropriate by recorded evidence. Centres offered a diverse range of activities, with increasing uptake of the coaching pathway.

Assessment decisions were sound, with the full range of marks used appropriately.

Coursework was of a good standard overall, with stronger responses including detailed analysis across physical, technical, tactical and behavioural components, alongside links to underpinning theory. Clear communication between centres and moderators supported efficient and effective moderation processes.

Areas for improvement include the consistency and quality of video evidence, with clearer candidate identification and extended footage preferred over highlight compilations. Coaching evidence is improving, although capturing clear verbal communication remains a challenge in recorded formats. Greater use of live coaching and 'rich task' activities is recommended to better support assessment at higher levels.

2027 will be the last year of assessment for Eduqas AS Physical Education.

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Supporting you

Useful contacts and links

Our friendly subject team is on hand to support you between 8.30am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.
Tel: 02922 404271
Email: physicaleducation@eduqas.co.uk
Qualification webpage: AS and A Level Physical Education | Eduqas

See other useful contacts here: Useful Contacts | Eduqas

CPD Training / Professional Learning

Access our popular, free online CPD/PL courses to receive exam feedback and put questions to our subject team, and attend one of our face-to-face events, focused on enhancing teaching and learning, providing practical classroom ideas and developing understanding of marking and assessment.

Please find details for all our courses here: https://www.eduqas.co.uk/home/professional-learning/

Regional Rep Team

Our regional team covers all areas of England and can provide face-to-face and online advice at a time which is convenient to you.

Get in contact today and discover how our team can support you and your students.
Regional Support Team | Eduqas

Eduqas Qualifications

We are one the largest providers of qualifications for schools, academies, sixth form and further education colleges across England, offering valued qualifications to suit a range of abilities. Each and every one of our qualifications is carefully designed to engage students and to equip them for the next stage of their lives.

We support our education communities by providing trusted qualifications and specialist support, to allow our students the opportunity to reach their full potential.

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