



Consultation on the reform of the WJEC Vocational Award in Sport and Coaching Principles (Technical Award)

Our current Vocational Award in Sport and Coaching Principles was launched for first teaching in 2018 with the first award in 2020. It has been approved as a Technical Award for inclusion in Key Stage 4 performance tables since 2020 and will remain on the performance tables until 2023.

We are currently reforming this qualification to meet the new Ofqual and DfE requirements for qualifications to be included in performance tables from 2024 onwards. At the same time, we are taking the opportunity to revise and update the qualification to reflect changes in the sector and feedback from centres.

We are currently seeking views from centres on our high-level proposals. Feedback at this stage will help inform the final shape and content of the qualification. The consultation questions are included in a link at the end of this document.

The specification for our current Vocational Award in Sport and Coaching Principles can be downloaded from the [Eduqas Website](#).

The UK Sport and Coaching Sector

Sport in the UK has achieved incredible results in recent years, with the British Olympic and Paralympic Teams both finishing second in the medal tables in Rio 2016, and the UK continuing to host some of the world's biggest sporting events. UK Sport has identified coaching as a key element of the high-performance system in the UK. Coaching, alongside other key performance support services such as Sports Medicine and Sports Science, Performance Lifestyle and Research and Innovation, plays a crucial role in ensuring the ongoing success of British athletes.¹

The reformed Vocational Award in Sport and Coaching Principles

The reformed WJEC Vocational Award in Sport and Coaching Principles is being designed to provide learners aged 14-16 with a broad introduction to the Sport and Coaching Principles industry and support progression to further learning. Learners will develop a range of general and specialist knowledge, understanding and skills that will support their progression to further study.

¹ <https://www.uk sport.gov.uk/>

Proposals relating to the qualification structure

We propose that the reformed qualification retains a three-unit structure with the externally assessed unit contributing 40% to the overall grade of the qualification and the internally assessed unit contributing the remaining 60%.

Unit number	Unit title	Assessment	GLH
1	Fitness for Sport	External	48
2	Improving Sporting Performance	Internal	36
3	Sports Coaching Principles	Internal	36

This structure has been designed to allow learners to develop underpinning knowledge and understanding of the Sport and Coaching sector, fitness for sport and how to improve sporting performance. Learners will also develop sports coaching skills as well as transferable skills of problem-solving, organisation and time management, planning and communication.

Unit 1

Unit title	Fitness for Sport
Overview of unit	This unit introduces learners to the adaptations that take place in the body following exercise, how training can lead to improvements in fitness and the planning of training programmes. The aim of this unit is to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to plan training programmes to improve the fitness of individuals.
Guided Learning Hours	48
Topics covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1 Knowledge of the adaptations to body systems resulting from exercise1.2 Knowledge of the components of health and fitness and fitness testing1.3 The role of training in achieving improvements in fitness
Summary of assessment	Externally assessed through an on-screen examination. This assessment contributes 40% to the overall qualification grade.

Unit 2

Unit title	Improving Sporting Performance
Overview of unit	The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the knowledge and understanding needed to be able to analyse the sporting performance of individuals and review the options available to improve performance.
Guided Learning Hours	36
Topics covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Factors affecting sporting performance2.2 Measuring sporting performance2.3 How to improve sporting performance2.4 Reviewing options to improve sporting performance
Summary of assessment	This unit is internally assessed and contributes 30% to the overall qualification grade. Learners will apply the knowledge gained in this unit to a given brief.

Unit 3

Unit title	Coaching Principles
Overview of unit	This unit introduces learners to the principles involved in sports coaching. The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the appropriate knowledge and understanding to be able to plan, lead and evaluate a sporting activity.
Guided Learning Hours	36
Topics covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3.1 Knowledge of the skills and responsibilities of a sports coach3.2 Understanding the coaching process3.3 How to coach3.4 Reviewing coaching performance
Summary of assessment	This unit is internally assessed and contributes 30% to the overall qualification grade. Learners will apply the knowledge gained in this unit to a given brief.

Proposals relating to our approach to assessment

Unit 1 will be externally assessed and will assess underpinning knowledge and understanding of key characteristics and requirements of skills needed to plan training programmes to improve the fitness of individuals. The unit content for 'Fitness for Sport' is currently assessed through a written examination available on-screen or on paper.

We propose that, in the reformed qualification, this unit will be assessed through an on-screen examination. Feedback from both centres and learners has indicated that the current on-screen assessment is engaging and motivating for learners. On-screen assessment will also allow us to introduce new and innovative question types including the use of audio and/or video clips where appropriate. The first assessment of this qualification will be in 2024 and we anticipate that there will be greater use of technology in learning and assessment by this time. We will keep this proposal under review throughout the development process and will continue to consult with centres and stakeholders to ensure that schools have the technical infrastructure in place before we make a final decision.

Unit 2 and Unit 3 will be internally assessed. We propose that this unit is assessed through an assignment brief which will include a scenario and several tasks to be completed under controlled conditions. Controlled assessment in our Vocational Awards is designed so that knowledge, skills and understanding are assessed through tasks that have many of the characteristics of real work in the sector. Assignment briefs are designed around an applied context which acts as a focus for the assessment. Due to the nature of the subject, it is our intention that the majority of the marks for Unit 3 will be awarded for practical coaching skills

Additional areas for consideration

In addition to your views on the proposals for this qualification we are also interested in hearing your views on a number of other areas including resources. Within the online form, there is an opportunity to join a closed forum to discuss these areas further.

Consultation questions

To provide your views on these proposals please complete the online survey [here](#).

Please note that the consultation opens on Wednesday, 6th May, and will close on Sunday, 31st May 2020.