

# New A Level Physical Education

## H154 & H554 replacing 3875 & 7875

Information for OCR centres transferring to **new specifications for first teaching in September 2008**

This document maps the current A Level Physical Education specification to the new specification for first teaching in September 2008. It includes information on the changes, support available and an outline of the new specification. It is intended to help ease the transition for Heads of Department and Teachers involved in the teaching of Physical Education

The full specification is available online along with a short questionnaire enabling you to share your comments on the specification and help shape the materials developed to support it. For more information including answers to frequently asked questions visit [www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels](http://www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels)

**Current specification – mapping the changes**

**pages 2-3**

**Outline specification for first teaching September 2008**

**page 4**

**QCA have stipulated that:**

- Number of units required to achieve GCE A Level is to be reduced from six to four.
- Stretch and Challenge style questions to be introduced into A2 assessment.



# Mapping the changes to the A Level Physical Education: Product Design specification for first teaching September 2008 H154 & H554 replacing 3875 & 7875



Existing specification					
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
AS <b>The Application of Physiological and Psychological Knowledge to Improve Performance.</b>	<b>2562</b> Mandatory 40% (AS) 20% (A Level) 1.5hr written examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit G451 will replace both 2562 and 2563 from the current specification. The new 2 hour paper will comprise of compulsory questions from the same topics as covered by the existing AS papers; Anatomy &amp; Physiology, Acquiring Movement Skills and Socio-cultural Studies. There will be one question on each of these areas. All questions are in a structured format, with sub-questions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2562 and 2563 units are being amalgamated into one unit.</li> <li>Content retains a familiar feel.</li> <li>New unit code G451.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As we are switching to 4 units from 6, and coursework is clearly a fundamental requirement in both AS and A2, only one written unit can be made available for each year of study.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Training</b> Training will be available for the new specifications. Details will be made available via the website.</li> <li><b>Publishers</b> Hodder to produce and OCR endorsed text book(s)</li> <li><b>Resources</b> Support materials and coursework guidance will be available for the examined and coursework units.</li> <li><b>Website</b> Updates, specifications and SAMs will be made available via the website. <a href="http://www.ocr.org.uk">www.ocr.org.uk</a></li> <li><b>Sample Assessment Material</b> SAMs to be in centres for Sept 2007, these will be made available via the website.</li> <li><b>Teacher Guidance</b> Support materials and coursework guidance will be available for the examined and coursework units.</li> </ul>
AS <b>Contemporary Studies in Physical Education</b>	<b>2563</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level) 1hr 15min written examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit G451 will replace both 2562 and 2563 from the current specification. The new 2 hour paper will comprise of compulsory questions from the same topics as covered by the existing AS papers; Anatomy &amp; Physiology, Acquiring Movement Skills and Socio-cultural Studies. There will be one question on each of these areas. All questions are in a structured format, with sub-questions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2562 and 2563 units are being amalgamated into one unit.</li> <li>Content retains a familiar feel.</li> <li>New unit code G451.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As we are switching to 4 units from 6, and coursework is clearly a fundamental requirement in both AS and A2, only one written unit can be made available for each year of study.</li> </ul>	
AS <b>Performance and its Improvement through Critical Analysis.</b>	<b>2564</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit G452 will replace unit 2564 of the current specification. Candidates will continue to be assessed in 2 practical activities from two different activity areas in the AS –Level year of study. They will also evaluate performance and plan for improvement in one of their chosen activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New unit code G452.</li> <li>While candidates will still be assessed in 2 practical activities from different activity areas, the list from which candidates can choose will be expanded to cater for some frequently requested activities currently not on our approved list.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As we are switching to 4 units from 6, and coursework is clearly a fundamental requirement in both AS and A2, only one written unit can be made available for each year of study.</li> </ul>	

Existing specification					
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
A2 Physical Education: Historical, Comparative, Biomechanical and Sport Psychology options.	<b>2565</b> Mandatory 15% (A Level) 1hr 15min written examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit G453 will replace 2565 and 2566 from the current specification. The new 2 hour 30 minute paper will comprise of two sections, with candidates answering 3 questions.</li> <li><b>A – Socio-cultural options</b> containing 2 questions, one based upon Historical Studies and one based upon Comparative Studies. Candidates must answer at least one question from this section.</li> <li><b>B – Scientific options</b> containing 3 questions, one each on Sports Psychology, Biomechanics and Exercise and Sport Physiology.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2565 and 2566 units are being amalgamated into one unit.</li> <li>Content retains a familiar feel.</li> <li>New unit code G453.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As we are switching to four units from six, and coursework is clearly a fundamental requirement in both AS and A2, only one written unit can be made available for each year of study.</li> </ul>	
A2 Exercise and Sport Physiology and the integration of knowledge of principles and concepts across different areas of Physical Education	<b>2566</b> Mandatory 20% (A Level) 1.5hr written examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit G453 will replace 2565 and 2566 from the current specification. The new 2 hour 30 minute paper will comprise of two sections, with candidates answering 3 questions.</li> <li><b>A – Socio-cultural options</b> containing 2 questions, one based upon Historical Studies and one based upon Comparative Studies. Candidates must answer at least one question from this section.</li> <li><b>B – Scientific options</b> containing 3 questions, one each on Sports Psychology, Biomechanics and Exercise and Sport Physiology.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2565 and 2566 units are being amalgamated into one unit.</li> <li>Content retains a familiar feel.</li> <li>New unit code G453.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As we are switching to four units from six, and coursework is clearly a fundamental requirement in both AS and A2, only one written unit can be made available for each year of study.</li> </ul>	
A2 The improvement of effective performance and critical evaluation of the practical activities with synoptic assessment	<b>2567</b> Mandatory 15% (A Level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates will be assessed in one activity from the two used in Unit G452 (AS practical). They will also evaluate performance and plan for improvement in their chosen activity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current A2 practical Unit (2567) requires candidates to be assessed in two activities from different activity areas. There is also no requirement currently for candidates to follow one of their AS activities through to A2 assessment.</li> <li>New unit code G454.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To allow candidates to focus on one activity, their skills within that activity and their ability to evaluate, appreciate and improve aspects of performance in the context of the chosen activity.</li> </ul>	

# New A Level Physical Education specification for first teaching September 2008

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	New unit title	New unit code	Benefits to me and my learners	Support
AS	An Introduction to Physical Education.	<b>G451</b> Mandatory 60% (AS) 30% (A Level) 2hr written paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New subject criteria requires a shift in focus and perspective (balanced, active and healthy lifestyles, participation, young people, performance in a variety of roles)</li> <li>However, the specification (and in particular the content) retains a familiar feel – as such, a relatively ‘painless’ progression from the legacy specification to the new; a focus on performance; opportunities for focused study in particular areas of interest at A2. Candidates can specialise in a single practical activity at A2; a diverse activity list; publishing partnership with Hodder.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Training</b> Training will be available for the new specifications. Details will be made available via the website.</li> <li><b>Publishers</b> Hodder to produce and OCR endorsed text book(s)</li> <li><b>Resources</b> Support materials and coursework guidance will be available for the examined and coursework units.</li> <li><b>Website</b> Updates, specifications and SAMs will be made available via the website. <a href="http://www.ocr.org.uk">www.ocr.org.uk</a></li> <li><b>Sample Assessment Material</b> SAMs to be in centres for Sept 2007, these will be made available via the website.</li> <li><b>Teacher Guidance</b> Support materials and coursework guidance will be available for the examined and coursework units.</li> </ul> <p><b>Please refer to the full specification for the full list of activities and sports covered.</b></p>
AS	Acquiring, developing and evaluating practical skills in Physical Education.	<b>G452</b> Mandatory 40% (AS) 20% (A Level) Internally assessed Externally moderated		
A2	Principles and concepts across different areas of Physical Education.	<b>G453</b> Mandatory 35% (A Level) 2.5hr written paper		
A2	The Improvement of effective performance and the critical evaluation of practical activities in Physical Education.	<b>G454</b> Mandatory 15% (A Level) Internally assessed Externally moderated		