

Sport - Departmental Curriculum Statement 2022-23

Curriculum Intent Statement

At Cowley, the BTEC Tech Award and BTEC National qualifications in Sport and Sports Coaching and Development have an essential core of knowledge and applied skills. Each unit has a practical and written element to it. Therefore, a typical lesson may involve some note taking in the classroom followed by a practical activity outside after which you will record: results, scores, feedback from peers etc. This evidence will then be used for an evaluation next lesson.

Our curriculum should give learners opportunities to link education and the world of work in engaging, relevant and practical ways. It should enable learners to enhance their English and mathematical competence in relevant, applied scenarios as well as support learners' development of transferable interpersonal skills, including working with others, problem solving, independent study and personal, learning and thinking skills. Ultimately, it should give learners a route through education that has clear progression pathways to further study or an apprenticeship.

Fundamentally, after completing these qualifications we want our students to have an insightful understanding of how the body's major systems adapt to training as well as giving the students experience of designing sport and exercise session and situations in a coaching/personal trainer/sports development context.

Curriculum Implementation Statement

Our curriculum is organised to give our learners a core of underpinning knowledge, skills and understanding, and a range of options to reflect the breadth of pathways in a sector. This gives learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the Sport sector as well being able to investigate areas of specific interest. The curriculum is designed to develop essential skills and attributes prized by employers, further education colleges and higher education institutions.

Curriculum Beyond the Classroom

Meeting sports professionals and visiting institutions in the sports sector is vital to understanding and developing skills in this industry. As a result, we take our students on several industry visits including John Moores University Sports Laboratories, Sporting venues such Old Trafford, Anfield and Lords Cricket ground. The students have the opportunity to speak to professionals in the industry thanks to our association with St Helens Rugby Football League Club.

Subject Expertise

All staff delivering Sport have delivered the curriculum at Level 2 and Level 3 for over five years. All have relevant PE or Sport qualifications to at least degree level with several members of staff studying to post graduate level. All new members of staff are given a full set of resources and are supported in assessment via the internal verification process.

Destinations

There are mandatory units and optional units. Mandatory units, developed in consultation with employers and educators, give learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of a vocational sector. Optional specialist units focus more closely on a vocational area, supporting progression to a more specialised Level 3 vocational or academic course or to an Apprenticeship.

Staff delivering Sport will have an ongoing dialogue with students about career choices and opportunities. Very often staff receive latest information about new courses, work experience and employment opportunities. This is relayed to students and staff facilitate students in their application process.

The sector-specific skills and knowledge will provide a sound basis for progression to further study of this sector at level 3 through a vocational qualification such as our BTEC National in Sports Coaching and Development, an apprenticeship or a Degree programme.