

17<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

**Y10 Qualification change**

I am writing to inform you of the proposed change to your son/daughter's qualification in Physical Education. Nationally, GCSE PE cohorts have underperformed since the reform of the specification in 2016. Exam performance has been the main barrier to accessing the higher grades but part of the reason is also that the assessment of coursework and practical grades have changed with very little guidance and support identifying how to improve. Students' grades have therefore not reflected what we believe they are capable of achieving.

Your child's progress has been carefully monitored throughout Year 9 with regular assessment and Praising Stars reports. In addition, your child sat a full mock paper Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September and significantly underperformed. Having considered all of these factors carefully, I believe it would be unjust to continue with a qualification in which they are unable to fulfil their academic potential and possibly effect their progress onto their desired post 16 destination. I am therefore proposing the change of qualification from GCSE PE to the BTEC Technical Award in Sport, Activity and Fitness. The difference between the two courses is detailed below:

GCSE PE	Weighting
Component 1 (Exam)	30%
Component 2 (Exam)	30%
Practical	30%
Coursework	10%

BTEC Technical Award in Sport, Activity and Fitness	Weighting
Component 1	30%
Component 2 (Exam)	30%
Component 3	40%

The transition between the qualifications is straight forward as the content is very similar. As you can see from the information above, the method of assessment that is different. Furthermore, to support your child with the conversion from GCSE PE to the BTEC Technical Award, we will complete a series of intervention sessions within the academy day, over the next three weeks.

If you would like to discuss this further or to arrange a meeting please email me at [m.jepps@shafton.outwood.com](mailto:m.jepps@shafton.outwood.com) or make contact via main reception on the phone number above.

Yours faithfully,



**Mike Jepps**  
Head of PE