



Our Ref: 2024/33930

To the Principal  
All Western Australian Schools teaching ATAR Physical Education Studies

Dear Principal

**YEAR 12 ATAR PHYSICAL EDUCATION STUDIES SYLLABUS REVIEW –  
REPLACEMENT OF THE EXTERNAL PRACTICAL (PERFORMANCE) EXAMINATION**

I write to provide an update on the School Curriculum and Standards Authority's (the Authority) review of the Year 12 ATAR Physical Education Studies syllabus.

The Board of the Authority, at its meeting held on Tuesday 21 May 2024, endorsed the revised Year 12 ATAR Physical Education Studies syllabus, including the replacement of the practical (performance) examination with a school-based external assessment process, to be implemented for Year 12 in 2025.

As you are aware, in 2018, the Authority consulted with Principals and Heads of Learning Area, Health and Physical Education, on the proposal to trial a process to replace the external practical (performance) examination component of the Year 12 ATAR Physical Education Studies course. This trial was successfully completed in May 2021 with a small number of schools.

Following approval from the Board, the Authority conducted a pilot in 2022 and 2023, involving all schools with enrolments in the Year 12 ATAR Physical Education Studies course, to further investigate a school-based assessment validation process as a replacement for the practical (performance) examination.

The Authority contracted Edith Cowan University to observe and provide independent feedback on the school-based assessment validation process, and this was used to refine the pilot processes, along with feedback from teachers.

Before final endorsement of the syllabus by the Authority's Board, all schools offering the ATAR Physical Education Studies course were asked to indicate their support for replacing the practical (performance) examination with a school-based external assessment.

Schools will be advised shortly, via the Authority's *11-12Circular*, regarding details of the publication of the Year 12 ATAR Physical Education Studies syllabus, along with information about professional learning seminars, both regional and metropolitan, which will support schools and teachers to implement the school-based external assessment.

Should you or your staff require more information in relation to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Dino Manalis, Principal Consultant, Curriculum and Assessment by email at [dino.manalis@scsa.wa.edu.au](mailto:dino.manalis@scsa.wa.edu.au) or telephone on 9273 6356.

On behalf of the Board of the Authority, I thank you and your staff for your ongoing support to improve students' learning experiences through their engagement with the Year 12 ATAR Physical Education Studies course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juanita Healy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

**JUANITA HEALY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND STANDARDS**

28 May 2024

cc ATAR Exam Contact