

University of the West of Scotland
Division of Education – Ayr Campus

Professional Graduate Diploma in Education - (Secondary)
Physical Education Interviews

As part of the interview, you will take part in a group discussion, an individual interview and a series of practical tasks. Please bring practical kit with you, changing facilities will be provided. The interview panel will normally have 3-5 people on it. It will consist of Elaine Wotherspoon (Programme Leader) as well as other lecturers from the Division of Education and Principal Teachers / Teachers of Physical Education from a variety of councils. Where possible, there will also be a current student on the panel who will be available on the day to assist you and provide insight into the course. The overall duration of the interview depends on the number of applicants on the day. Normally we interview 16 – 21 candidates per day so you should be prepared to spend the whole day on campus.

Group Discussion: Discussion will be based on the following topic:

What makes an effective teacher of Physical Education in 21st Century Scotland?

Individual Interview: The individual interview starts with a seen question, details of which are outlined below. You will then be asked follow up questions about your experiences and further questions to establish your suitability for the course and the teaching profession.

Show and Tell - Seen Question: You should be prepared to share a short response (2-3 minutes) around the following topic:

Why do you want to become a Physical Education teacher?

We are interested in knowing what inspired you to become a PE teacher. This could be an event or a person or it could be multiple things. We would like you to answer this question as a ‘show and tell’ response. This means you should bring one item that represents why you want to become a PE teacher. This could be a homemade poster, a resource, a memento, a picture, a poem or something else innovative or creative that will support your response to the question. You will not have access to a computer so please don’t prepare anything that requires technology e.g. a video or PowerPoint

Teaching Task: You will be asked to produce a teaching episode. You will be asked to work with a small group and present a teaching episode of one of the basic skills in either Badminton or Basketball. You will be informed of the activity and be given preparation time on the day of the interview. You will then be expected to deliver the teaching episode as part of your interview. You will be assessed on:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| - Voice Projection | - Enthusiasm |
| - Content | - Movement |
| - Presence | - Positioning |
| - Energy | - Ability to demonstrate |

Practical Interview

Dance – Prior to your interview date you should prepare a short dance to the following song:
Blinding Lights – The Weekend

You should be able to demonstrate your ability in the following areas:

Creativity, Use of space, Control, Use of levels, Rhythm & Fluency

On the day of the interview you will be asked to work with a group to create a group dance and the final creation will then be performed as a group. The following gives you an outline of the expectations for the timeline of the dance:

0-25 seconds group dance intro

25-60 seconds individual dances performed at the same time as the rest of the group

60-85 seconds – group dance conclusion

Gymnastics – Prior to your interview please prepare a gymnastic sequence including a selection (at least 8) of the skills listed below. Please note this list is not a comprehensive list, it is just the minimum expectation if there are other more advanced or combination skills you wish to include in your routine you would be encouraged to do so. You will be performing your routine on one standard gymnastics floor mat.

Balances e.g. Arabesque, V-sit, Front / Back Support or other 1/2/3/4 Point balances

Rotation e.g. Straddle Roll, Circle Roll, Forward / Backwards Roll

Jumps e.g. Tuck / Straight / Star jump or other jumps

Shapes e.g. Straddle, pike, dish, dome

Inversions e.g. Shoulder Stand, Handstand

You will perform your routine individually in front of the interview panel and the other candidates. You will be given warm up time prior to performing. Alongside demonstrating a range of skills as listed above you should be able to demonstrate the following:

Creativity, Use of space, Use of levels, Fluency, Control & Body Tension / Extension

Games: You will also be assessed on your practical ability to perform in Handball and Volleyball. You will be assessed on the following:

Coordination, Spatial awareness, Teamwork & Tactical Awareness.

You will also be assessed throughout the interview day on:

Oral Communication: Articulation, pronunciation, fluency, grammar, audibility

Personal Qualities: Engagement, enthusiasm, warmth, confidence, personable, interaction with others

Please note: The format and interview procedures might be altered in line with Government or university guidance. This information will be communicated in a timely manner with applicants who are scheduled for interview.