



### **Additional advice for PE applicants**

This additional advice is offered to applicants wishing to train as teachers of Physical Education (PE) as each year the number of applicants significantly exceeds the number of places available.

Teaching PE requires the development of degree level subject knowledge in all aspects of the National Curriculum. Trainees will need to demonstrate knowledge of the processes and concepts contained within the National Curriculum. PE graduates are arguably more likely to have specific subject knowledge and an understanding of how to communicate this knowledge within the structured framework of the National Curriculum. However, the NC processes are delivered via a range of activities and competence in two areas is usually a good starting point for graduate teachers to develop their skills. The GTP requires graduate teachers to develop, practise and secure their teaching skills over a year-long training programme and the main focus of the training programme is usually classroom practice. Therefore a good starting point for applicants is in-depth experience for two of the above activities and some experience of two others at the start of the programme.

Applicants for GTP often have first degrees which may not fully meet the requirements for degree level subject knowledge. These include degrees in Sport and PE, Sport Development, and Sport and Coaching which are likely to require applicants to develop additional subject knowledge during the GTP. First degrees in Sports Science and Leisure Management tend to be more problematic, requiring an exceptional commitment to the development of subject knowledge which may not be compatible with the other requirements of GTP. Similarly, some applicants have a specialism in only one sport or activity and sometimes at a very high level of performance; this is likely to be seen as inadequate preparation for GTP.

For applicants who do not have a first degree in PE but have one of the degrees listed above, it will be advantageous to acquire a range of coaching qualifications which evidence their ability to develop skills, tactics and fitness through these activities. In addition to the range of coaching qualifications, applicants will be advantaged when they can offer evidence of a range of:

- related A levels
- significant experience working with pupils or young people, and
- sustained experience of working in a school environment and in the specialist area

Finally, please remember that the Kirklees Partnership six places for training in the non-shortage secondary subjects, which since September 2008 includes English, Drama and Dance – all local shortage subjects. Competition for these places is intense, and applications from PE candidates are by far the largest number. Please do consider applying to other local Providers, and for the PGCE route.