GCSE Physical Education – Planes and Axes

Planes of Movement

Plane of movement	Movement allowed	Sporting examples
Transverse	Rotation	 Ice skating 360° spin Pirouette Rotation in a golf swing
Frontal	Side to Side movements • Abduction • Adduction	 Jumping Jacks Cartwheels Star Jumps Abduction of hip in breaststroke Abduction of shoulder when shooting in netball
Sagittal	Up and down movements • Flexion • Extension	 Bicep curl Leg action in running Elbow flexion in the Javelin throw Somersault

Axes of Movement

Plane of movement	Movement allowed	Sporting examples
Frontal –runs horizontally from the front to the back of your body	Sideways rotation (works with frontal plane)	• Cartwheel
Transverse – Passes horizontally from left to right of your body	Forwards rotation (works with sagittal plane)	• Somersault
Longitudinal – Passes vertically from the top to the bottom of your body	Vertical rotation (works with transverse plane)	 Ice skating 360° spin Pirouette Rotation in a golf swing