## GCSE Physical Education - The structure and functions of the skeletal system

Structure of the skeletal system


## Function of the skeleton

- Protection of vital organs
- Muscle attachment
- Joints for movement
- Blood cell production (platelets, red and white)
- Storage of calcium and phosphorus


## Classification of joint

- Pivot (neck - atlas and axis)
- Hinge (elbow and knee)

- Ball and socket (hip and shoulder)
- Condyloid (wrist)



## Connective tissue

Ligaments - attaches bone to bone to add joint stability.
Tendons - attaches muscles to bone and contributes to joint movement as a result of muscle contraction.

Structure of the skeletal system


## Vertebral Column

The vertebral column is divided into 5 sections. It is made up of irregularly shaped bones called vertebrae.
Each vertebra
is protected
with cartilage
to prevent
friction.
The vertebrae
protects the
spinal cord.

## Classification of bones

| Long (leverage) | Short (weight bearing) | Flat (protection + muscle attachment) | Irregular (protection and muscle attachment) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Clear shaft region to the bone. <br> i.e. femur, humerus \& phalanges | Light, small and very strong. i.e. carpals tarsals | Broad surface area for muscle attachment. i.e. cranium | Assist the functioning of certain joints. i.e. Patella/vertebrae |

Joint movements

| Flexion | Adduction | Rotation | Dorsi-Flexion (ankle joint) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Decreasing the <br> angle at a joint <br> (bending) | Limbs moving <br> towards the <br> midline of the body. | A twisting/turning <br> action around a <br> joint. | Circumduction |$\quad$| When the toes |
| :--- |
| are turned up |
| to the body. |, | Planter-Flexion (ankle joint) |
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| Extension |
| Increasing the angle <br> at a joint <br> (straightening) |
| Limbs moving <br> away from the <br> midline of <br> the body. |

