

The Wearing of Jewellery in PE

Parents and carers can find out about our uniform and jewellery rules in our new starters booklet and in our Uniform Policy on the school website.

By sending a child to our school, parents and carers have implied their acceptance of the rules. The wearing of jewellery, earrings and ear-studs is not permitted on safety grounds during physical education lessons and other sporting activities such as after school clubs or competitive fixtures. These items represent a potential hazard not only to the wearer but also to other children.

Medical advice confirms that any jewellery worn in physical education lessons is an unnecessary risk and should be avoided at all times. Serious accidents have occurred as a result of contact between pupils wearing earrings or studs and other pupils or equipment, thus damaging the ear, or where items of jewellery have caught in apparatus and torn the ear lobe.

Whitegate Cof E Primary School prohibits the wearing of jewellery, earrings and ear-studs in all aspects of physical activity as these could present a hazard to the wearer and to others. Pupils are encouraged to leave items of jewellery and earrings at home on days when they have physical education lessons. Children who do wear earrings to school on PE days will be expected to remove them by themselves. Staff are unable to help with this.

Parents cannot withdraw their child from PE lessons, as PE is a statutory subject in maintained schools and all pupils are required to attend.

Newly pierced ears can take a period of up to six weeks before sleepers and studs can be removed. We do remind parents and carers that ears should be pierced at the start of the summer holidays to allow sufficient time for earrings to be safely removed.

Pupils who are not able to remove earrings (as these may be newly pierced) will not actively participate in physical education for their own and others safety. In this circumstance a pupil will be asked to undertake learning in another classroom.

The taping of jewellery can create a perception of safety and is not permitted. Tape can often fall off and does not reduce the risk of compression injury.

Parents are encouraged to actively work with schools in helping to minimise disruption to the physical education curriculum. Parents can help by ensuring that school guidance on jewellery is adhered to and that ears are pierced at the start of the summer holidays to allow maximum healing time.

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