

The Wearing of Jewellery in PE Policy

(In line with AfPE national guidance)

Purpose

To ensure the safety of all pupils during Physical Education (PE) and physical activity by managing the risks associated with wearing jewellery, including earrings and watches.

General Principles

- **All jewellery must be removed** before participating in any PE lesson or physical activity.
- This includes **earrings, studs, watches, rings, necklaces, bracelets, and body piercings**.
- **Taping over earrings or studs is not permitted**, as it creates a false sense of safety and does not prevent injury.

AfPE Guidance Highlights

- The **AfPE** states that **no jewellery should be worn** during PE, including swimming and other physical activities.
- Covering earrings with tape is **not safe** and is **not recommended** due to risks such as:
 - Tearing of the earlobe.
 - Injury to the neck from the earring post.
- **Parental disclaimers are not legally valid** and do not override the school's duty of care.
- Pupils must **remove their own jewellery**. Staff are not permitted to assist with removal.

Religious or Cultural Jewellery

- Jewellery worn for **religious reasons** that cannot be removed (e.g., Kara bracelets) must be:
 - **Covered with a sweatband.**
 - **Secured with tape.**
 - **Assessed through a risk assessment** to determine safe participation.

New Piercings

- Parents are strongly advised to schedule new piercings during **school holidays** to allow for healing.
- Pupils with new piercings who cannot remove earrings:
 - **Will not be allowed to participate** in physical elements of PE for up to **6 weeks**.
 - May be given alternative roles (e.g., coaching, officiating, observation tasks).

Risk Management

- PE staff will conduct **risk assessments** for all activities.
- Activities will be adjusted or participation restricted if jewellery cannot be removed and safety cannot be assured.
- **Low-risk activities** (e.g., observation, analysis) may be permitted in some cases.

Responsibilities

- **Parents/carers** must ensure children do not wear jewellery on PE days.
- **Pupils** are responsible for removing and storing their own jewellery.
- The school is **not liable for lost or damaged items**.

Non-Compliance

- Pupils who do not comply with this policy will not be allowed to take part in PE.
- Repeated non-compliance will be addressed with parents/carers.

Parents cannot withdraw his/her child from PE lessons, as PE is a statutory subject in maintained schools until the end of Key Stage (KS) 4 and all pupils are required to attend.

Equality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people based on their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.