

Our Jewellery Policy for PE, Sports Clubs and other Sporting Events

Updated: October 2024

Our default position is that all jewellery should be removed when pupils are taking part in sporting activities as part of our curriculum offer. This includes rings, bracelets, necklaces, earrings/studs and watches. This is in line with the current guidance from the National Association for Physical Education

Pupils are encouraged not to wear jewellery on days when they will be taking part in organised sport and/or PE including swimming. If a pupil arrives at school wearing earrings, the pupil is expected to remove them before taking part in the physical activity.

Exceptions

Although parents and pupils are encouraged to have piercings done at the start of the summer holiday so that earrings/studs can be removed for PE and sport in time for the start of the new academic year, pupils will be allowed to cover their studs with suitable tape where this has not been possible. In these circumstances, they will still be allowed to participate in organised sport throughout this healing period.

This will also apply where a pupil is physically unable to remove earrings/studs or where to remove them may result in significant discomfort and/or bleeding.

Staff are not required to remove or tape up earrings for pupils. Pupils should come ready for the lesson, preferably with earrings removed or adequately taped. Taping over ears may offer a measure of protection in some physical activity situations, where individuals are required to work within their own personal space. However, the amount of tape used needs to be sufficient to prevent the piercing penetrating, for example, the bone behind the ear should an unintentional blow be received from someone or some item of equipment, such as a ball.

The teacher supervising the group has the legal responsibility to ensure the taping is fit for purpose. If the teacher considers the taping to be unsatisfactory to permit safe participation, they will make adaptations in terms of how the pupil takes part in the practical aspects of the lesson. The pupil can contribute to group planning,

designing and tactical discussions and then have different tasks assigned to them during the practical elements of the lesson.

Exclusion from a lesson will always be avoided and adaptations to the session implemented instead.

Applicable to

This policy has been agreed by Sporting Influence and will apply to Western Staff and all third-party providers working with our pupils.