



Earrings in PE Statement

November 2024

Our Values:



Wearing of earrings in Physical Education Lessons

It has always been the case that for Health and Safety reasons all jewellery needs to be removed for PE lessons. The exception to this had been pierced earrings. Previous guidance had stated that children wearing pierced earrings could participate in the PE lessons providing that the earrings were covered with micro-pore tape or a plaster and that the child was able to apply the plaster themselves.

Staffordshire County Council's guidance on this has changed based on national advice issued by the British Association of Advisers and Lecturers in Physical Education (BAALPE) and The Association of Physical Education (AfPE). It is now felt that the taping of earrings '**creates a perception of safety and is not recommended**', as there have been several incidences within the local authority where children's ears have been injured from earrings being pulled out from under the tape.

The most recent guidelines state: ***All jewellery should be removed prior to a physical education lesson due to the increased risk of it becoming caught or causing injury to the wearer or fellow learner. The wearing of any jewellery increases the risk of injury significantly.***

Therefore, our Academy stance on the wearing of earrings in PE is as follows:

Children or adults are not permitted to wear jewellery, including pierced earrings, during PE lessons. Staff are not allowed to take out or replace children's earrings if they are unable to do so themselves, therefore it would be helpful if earrings could be taken out at home on PE days. If a child has recently had their ears pierced and are unable to remove their earrings, they will not be permitted to take part in PE lessons for 6 weeks, after which time they will be expected to remove their earrings in order to participate in PE lessons. Children who are not able or permitted to take part in the physical element of lessons will be required to take on a coaching role or take part in theory-based activities.

All pupils from Key Stage 1 are required by law to take part in PE lessons. This is outlined in government guidance which states: '**Physical education (PE) is a compulsory part of the curriculum for all pupils from Key Stage 1**' (Department for Education, GOV.UK, 2015).