



# Earrings & Jewellery during PE

Date Created	Committee	Date Approved	Min No.
	Safeguarding	04.03.2019	SFG19/05



## **NMPS - Earrings and Jewellery during PE**

### **Current New Mills Primary School Policy**

Earrings and Jewellery must not be worn for PE. Teachers are not allowed to remove or tape the earrings for children. Children who cannot remove their earrings themselves – mainly due to the 6 week period after the initial piercing – must not take part in PE lessons or school sport. Parents are advised to have their children's ears pierced at the start of the summer holidays.

### **The Problem**

There are an increasing number of children, particularly in KS1 attending school with earrings having had them pierced during term time. Some of these children are often upset at not being able to participate in PE lessons. Others see it as a happy excuse not to do PE!

Our responsibility as a school should be to enable as many children as possible to participate in physical activity and school sport. We are therefore looking to change the school earring policy. I have sought advice from other PEGS schools, the Association for PE and DCC.

### **The Proposal**

We would like to clarify school policy on the wearing of earrings during PE and School Sport. Earrings present a hazard to both the wearer and other children taking part in sports activities. From January 2019 School policy will be as follows:

- Children are not permitted to wear jewellery, including pierced earrings, during PE lessons.
- Teachers are not allowed to take out or replace children's earrings if they are unable to do so themselves. It would therefore 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 are required to make them safe by taping, front and back, which may offer a measure of protection.
- The taping should be sufficient to prevent the stud post penetrating the bone behind the ear should an unintentional blow be received (e.g. from someone or from equipment such as a ball).
- This taping should be done at home for younger children or prior to the lesson for older children. Older children should provide their own plasters or tape during this 6 week period.

- **Staff are not permitted to tape earrings for children**
- Staff reserve the right to prevent a child from taking part in any PE lesson or sport where the taping is likely to provide inadequate protection for the wearer or other children in the class.
- During swimming lessons children wearing earrings must either remove them or have them completely covered by a close fitting swimming cap.
- We would advise that if children are having their ears pierced that they do this at the beginning of the summer holidays.

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