

Southwood Infant School

Wearing of Jewellery Policy

Definition

Practice regarding the wearing of jewellery can raise emotive issues, which should be handled sensitively at all times. The safety of the children is paramount.

Jewellery and earrings are known to be potentially dangerous. Hampshire County Council and National Safety Documents all state that earrings and jewellery should be removed for PE/Games activities.

- Rings, bracelets or necklaces must not be worn by children at any time.
- Watches may be worn by pupils at their own risk. They must be removed for PE/Games activities.
- Long hair should be tied back for PE/Games activities.
- Only 'stud' earrings may be worn (no dangling or hooped earrings), but they must be removed for PE/Games activities.
- The school cannot accept any responsibility for watches or jewellery worn by the children.
- Staff will remove their watches and any other personal jewellery which might be hazardous when taking PE/Games lessons.

Risks which may be Incurred

- Stud earrings – impact on side of head could cause the spike to enter the mastoid area. This has the potential to cause deafness.
- Ring earrings – an accident would have the potential to cause torn ear lobes leading to possible pain and scarring.

Action

Where a child is unable to remove their earrings, the earrings should be covered with tape. Children must be taught to manage this themselves under adult supervision as staff risk accusations of assault if they apply the tape.

Procedures

Parents will be informed of this policy via newsletter and the school website.

Parents will be asked to teach their children to remove and replace their own earrings.

Parents to provide tie backs for children with long hair.

Guidelines

Children cannot 'sit out' PE/Games lessons because they are wearing earrings.

Schools should not use disclaimer letters which have been signed by parents.

Should parents wish their children to continue to wear jewellery during PE for religious or cultural reasons, attempts should be made to reach a safe and practical solution. For example , bracelets could be covered by the use of tape or sweatbands.

Ratified: January 2018

Review date: January 2021