



Halsall St Cuthbert's C E Aided Primary School



Earring policy

Earrings are not permitted to be worn at all at Halsall St Cuthbert's CE Primary school as they present a hazard to both the wearer and other children taking part in sports or physical activities (this policy came into effect in June 2023). As children are encouraged to be active during playtimes this policy also applies to outdoor breaks.

The Association for Physical Education (AfPE) strongly recommends the practice of removing all personal effects at the commencement of every lesson to establish a safe working environment.

This applies to all ear and body piercings, including retainer and expander earrings. Schools have a duty of care to ensure students can participate actively without unnecessarily endangering themselves or those working around them. The fundamental reason not to wear earrings (or any jewellery) is that it can lead to injury for the wearer and for others in the class. Wearing earrings can result in both tearing of the ear lobe, but also the post of the earring going into the neck.

Children will not be permitted to tape any jewellery.

The Association for PE issued advice that supports our policy that the taping of jewellery "creates a perception of safety and is not recommended."

There have been incidences of injuries where jewellery has been caught under the tape. Furthermore, plasters and tape can fall off during any physical activity and does not reduce the risk of injury. The fundamental reason not to wear earrings or any jewellery, is that it can lead to injury for the wearer and for others in the class. **As the teacher supervising the group would have the legal responsibility to ensure taping is fit for purpose, we have taken the decision as a school, not to permit the wearing of earrings at all.**

We understand that some children may have newly pierced ears therefore, we want to ensure that this policy is communicated well in advance. If you are considering getting your child's ears pierced, we kindly request that you arrange for this to be done in the first week of the summer holidays. This timing will allow sufficient healing time so that jewellery can be safely removed during the day once school resumes in September.

During outdoor breaks, pupils wearing earrings will remain inside and read a book in the resource area where they can be supervised. Pupils may still participate in PE lessons at a non-physical level. The student can contribute to group planning, designing and tactical discussions, but can have different tasks assigned to them during the practical elements of the lesson (for example, individual skills practices, peer coaching, observation and feedback tasks, videoing others to analyse at a later stage, or officiating in a games context).

