



Delph Side Jewellery Policy

Delph Side Primary School have a duty of care to ensure students are able to participate actively without unnecessarily endangering themselves or those working around them.

The wearing of jewellery, earring and ear-studs (metal or plastic) is not permitted on safety grounds during physical education lessons and other sporting activities such as out of hours school learning or competitive fixtures. These items represent a potential hazard not only to the wearer but also to other children. Medical advice confirms that any jewellery worn in physical education lessons is an unnecessary risk and should be avoided at all times.

At Delph Side Primary, we prohibit the wearing of earrings and ear-studs in all PE lessons including swimming. Pupils should be encouraged to leave earrings at home on days when they have physical education lessons. A child who cannot remove their earrings, for example newly pierced ears which can take a period of up to six weeks before sleepers and studs can be removed, will be asked to cover the earrings with medical tape. Taping over ear piercings 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. We would advise parents that ears should be pierced at the start of the summer holidays to allow sufficient time for earrings to be safely removed.

If the teacher considers the taping to be unsatisfactory to permit safe participation, they will need to make adaptations in terms of how the student takes part in the practical aspects of the lesson. 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).

We urge parents to work with school in helping to minimise disruption to the Physical Education Curriculum. Parents can help by ensuring that school guidance on jewellery is adhered to and that ears are pierced at the start of the summer holidays to allow maximum healing time.