



BURWELL VILLAGE COLLEGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Carers

Wearing of Jewellery in School

Following County Council guidelines, please can we remind parents that during sporting activities, swimming or P.E. lessons children **are not** permitted to wear any type of earrings or jewellery. On those days earrings must have been removed before the school day begins unless your child is confident to remove them before the P.E. lesson commences.

At Burwell we believe that parents should be provided with an explanation for such reasoning, so we have included below the relevant notes taken from County Council guidance for Healthy and Safety Management in Cambridgeshire Schools and statements from the School's General Advisor for PE and Sport:

'The reason not to wear earrings (or any jewellery for that matter) is that they can lead to injury for the wearer and for others in the class and it is the teacher's higher duty of care that must apply here. The reason is both about tearing of the ear lobe, but also the post of the earring going in to the neck which is where the brachial nerve is running directly to the brain. This is also national policy from the Association for PE (AfPE).'

*'In **very exceptional** circumstances (e.g. newly pierced ear, infection or similar short term medical condition) the ear lobe may be taped temporarily (4 to 6 weeks) with non-allergic (hypo allergenic) micro porous tape if it is necessary to retain the stud in place for medical reasons. Conventional first-aid sticking plasters must not be used in these cases. The parent, in such instances, must provide suitable evidence (in the form of a Doctor's note) of the pierced ear infection or short-term medical condition.'*

We have also been advised that it will need a wadding of cotton wool at the back of the ear to protect from the earring post.

'Members of staff should not be personally involved in the removal and/or temporary secure storage of items of jewellery, both for hygiene and insurance indemnity reasons and to avoid inadvertent injury to the pupil.'

We therefore ask parents to support staff by removing their child's earrings before the school day starts. If you are unsure as to when PE occurs within your child's class please speak to their Teacher. If a child's ear needs to be taped we would ask you to speak to or send a note to the class teacher.

This policy will take effect immediately. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Z Harradine
PE CO-ORDINATOR

