



Bryn Awel Primary School

Jewellery Policy

January 2023



Article 12: Your right to say what you think should happen and be listened to.

Article 42: All adults and children should know about this convention. You have a right to learn about your rights and adults should learn about them too.



POLICY ON THE WEARING OF JEWELLERY IN SCHOOL

Policy statement

The school's policy on the wearing of jewellery is based on the principle that items of jewellery are unsuitable for school wear at best and at worst constitute a safety hazard.

Our Policy is based on the Association for Physical Education documents, ***"Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport"*** and ***"Health & Safety Update - May 2020"***

Body piercing

It is recognised that society's acceptance of the wearing of jewellery has changed considerably. However, in the case of children who have pierced ears, it is possible for children to wear studs or small sleepers while at school and keep more fashionable items for out of school.

"It would be ideal if ears were pierced at the start of the summer holidays, given six weeks to settle and are then ready to remove for PE lessons as from September."
Association for Physical Education

Any more than one piercing of each ear or piercing of any other body part is highly unsuitable for children and will not be acceptable in the school environment.

Health and Safety

Loose jewellery in a school situation can be very dangerous for the wearer and for others. PE and Games especially, are activities where earrings, bangles, chains, bracelets and rings could become caught in equipment and cause bodily injuries.

"Schools have a duty of care to ensure students are able to participate actively without unnecessarily endangering themselves or those working around them. A clear and consistently applied policy for the removal of personal effects should be in place. 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."

"Personal effects, such as jewellery, (including body piercings), religious artefacts, watches, hair slides should ideally always be removed to establish a safe working environment." **Association for Physical Education**

No jewellery is to be worn during PE and Games sessions. Children will be asked to remove all items (including earrings) and leave them in a pocket or bag.

For younger children who are unable to remove their own earrings, parents/carers are

expected to remove their child's earrings before school on their PE day.

Teachers will not accept responsibility for looking after any item of jewellery.

If the situation cannot be made safe, the individual pupil concerned should not actively participate. 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). **Association for Physical Education**

"Disclaimers from parents about the wearing of any item of jewellery by a pupil should be declined. Such indemnities have no legal status. The duty of care remains firmly with the school on such matters." **Association for Physical Education**

Watches

Only basic analogue/digital watches or step counters are appropriate for school.

Smart watches are not to be worn in school for many reasons, including:

- They are a high value item that is not appropriate for school and can be easily broken or stolen
- They can be a distraction in the classroom during sessions
- Many feature inbuilt cameras which raises safeguarding and privacy concerns for both children and adults onsite.

Any watches that have phone, game, recording or photo features, and can be connected to the internet, will be treated the same as a mobile phone:

- Children will need to hand them in to their teacher at the beginning of the school day and they will be stored securely
- The children will then collect them at the end of the school day

This is to ensure the safety of all the children onsite.

Summary

The following summarises the policy on the wearing of jewellery by children.

- Items of jewellery are unsuitable for school wear
- A single stud or sleeper earring in each ear would be considered acceptable
- Rings, neck chains, bangles, beads, non-medical wrist bands, bracelets etc. must not be worn in school
- False nails and make-up must not be worn in school
- All items must be removed for PE and Games activities
- Any items worn for religious reasons should be discussed with the head teacher and special arrangements will be made
- Piercing of any other body part would be considered unacceptable

- Children may wear a basic analogue/digital watch or step counter – no smart watches

Children who persist in wearing the unsuitable items listed above will be told to leave them at home. On the second occasion they will be asked to remove the items and collect them at the end of the school session. The items will be retained by school staff until then.

Parents will be informed of the school's action and their co-operation will be expected.

In conclusion

The school and the Governing Body wish to make it clear to everyone that the above policy is considered to be in the best interests and safety of all children in school.

The co-operation of all parents in following this policy would be gratefully appreciated and will ensure that no further action would be necessary.