ST. ANNE'S C.E. (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

JEWELLERY IN P.E. POLICY

'Together With God, Making Learning a Life Long Friend'

Approved:	18.9.2026
Review Date:	31.08.2027

We are a Church of England School and our policies are written with a commitment to our Christian Character, which is rooted in the Bible.

Start children off on the way they should go and even when they are old they will not turn from it (Proverbs 22:6)

This policy is informed by the current edition of Safe Practice in Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity published by the Association for Physical Education (afPE), alongside the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and relevant Department for Education guidance. St Anne's CE (VC) Primary School recognises its duty to provide a safe learning environment whilst enabling all pupils to access a broad and balanced physical education curriculum

Parents can find out about our uniform and jewellery rules in the school prospectus and on visits to the school. By sending a child to our school, parents have implied their acceptance of the rules.

St Anne's CE Primary School has a duty of care to ensure its pupils are able to participate actively without unnecessarily endangering themselves of those working around them.

The 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.

Therefore, the wearing of jewellery, earrings 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. This includes body piercings such as tongue studs or belly button jewellery. Covering earrings or other jewellery with tape, plasters or sweatbands is not considered an acceptable control measure and does not eliminate the risk of injury. All jewellery must be removed prior to participation wherever possible.

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. Serious accidents have occurred as a result of contact between pupils wearing earrings or studs and other pupils or equipment, thus damaging the ear, or where items of jewellery have caught in apparatus and torn the ear lobe.

St Anne's prohibits the wearing of jewellery, earrings and ear-studs in all aspects of physical activity as these could present a hazard to the wearer and to others.

Pupils are encouraged to leave items of jewellery and earrings at home on days when they have physical education lessons. Children who do wear earrings to school on PE days will be expected to remove them, themselves. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to jewellery removed for PE lessons. Pupils should therefore leave jewellery at home on PE days wherever possible. Any jewellery removed in school remains the responsibility of the pupil

Parents and carers should arrange ear piercing, wherever possible, at the beginning of the summer holiday to allow sufficient healing time before pupils return to school. Where earrings cannot be safely removed because ears are newly pierced, pupils will not participate in practical physical activity until the jewellery can be removed safely. Alternative learning opportunities, such as observation, officiating, coaching, performance analysis or other curriculum-related activities, will be provided

Pupils who are not able to remove earrings (as these may be newly pierced) will not actively participate in physical education for their own and others safety. In this circumstance a pupil will be asked to undertake the role of coach, official or other learning activity that is relevant.

Parents are encouraged to actively work with schools 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.

Reasonable Adjustments

The school will consider any individual circumstances, including medical needs, disabilities or specific religious requirements, in consultation with parents/carers and, where appropriate, external professionals. Any adjustments will be subject to appropriate risk assessment and will prioritise the safety of the pupil and others.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Headteacher, PE Subject Leader and all staff delivering physical activity are responsible for ensuring that:

- Appropriate risk assessments are in place and reviewed as necessary.
- Pupils are checked for jewellery and other personal effects before participation.
- Safe practices are consistently applied across curriculum PE, extracurricular clubs, educational visits and sporting fixtures.
- Parents are informed of the school's expectations regarding jewellery and PE participation.
- Any accidents, incidents or near misses are reported and recorded in accordance with the school's health and safety procedures

St Anne's CE (VC) Primary School is committed to ensuring that all pupils engage safely in physical education, school sport and physical activity. This policy supports the school's duty of

care, promotes safe participation and reflects current best practice in health and safety management within educational settings