

Dear Parents/Carers,

Earrings in school – change of policy

After receiving new and important health and safety (H&S) guidance on the wearing of earrings in school, the Governors, after thoughtful debate, have changed the school policy in regard to days when the children have P.E. or swimming lessons.

NEW POLICY:

- We are no longer allowed to tape over earrings for P.E. lessons – **earrings must be removed.**
- We strongly recommend that pupils leave their earrings **at home** on P.E./swimming days.
- If they forget to leave their earrings at home, they will be asked to remove them (as staff are not allowed to remove earrings) and we will **not** be responsible if earrings go missing.
- With younger children, it is vital that Parent/Carers take full responsibility for the removal of the earrings at home.
- START DATE FOR THIS NEW POLICY: FEBRUARY 28TH 2011 – AFTER HALF TERM

<p>IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHEN YOUR CHILD HAS P.E. LESSONS, PLEASE ASK THE CLASS TEACHER. SWIMMING LESSONS TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY AFTERNOONS FOR CLASS 4 UP TO EASTER AND THEN CLASS 2 WILL START SWIMMING LESSONS AFTER EASTER ON TUESDAY AFTERNOONS.</p>

You might think that this new policy is a bit severe but we have to act upon H&S advice. You might be interested to know that schools in **Essex have banned the wearing of earrings in school completely** – our Governing body did not want to ban the wearing of earrings completely but wanted a sensible compromise which we know our families will support as it is in the best interest of your child.

A few reminders whilst on the subject of earrings:

- Pupils should only be wearing 1 small stud earring in each ear – no hoops or dangly earrings – lovely as they are for the weekend, they are totally inappropriate for school for H&S reasons.
- We strongly recommend that earrings of any value are not worn in school either.
- Bearing in mind this new policy, if you are considering getting your child's ears pierced, the most appropriate time would be the beginning of the summer holidays.

If you have any concerns about this change in policy, please make an appointment to see Mr. Cauchi.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Mouchel
Headteacher