

CRESWELL C.E. INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

JEWELLERY POLICY

Introduction

This policy is based on guidelines issued by the LEA dated September 2001 and is written with health and safety considerations in mind. "Jewellery" refers to rings, watches, bracelets, neck chains, pendants, brooches and earrings. "Body piercings" refers to pierced ears, noses, eyebrows, navels etc.

Risk Assessment

The type of possible injury is tearing or piercing of flesh

- Is there a potential for injury to the wearer due to inadvertent contact of jewellery with other people, clothing etc? The risk is greater with the sleeper/ring type jewellery and projecting/dangling jewellery.
- Is there a risk to other people? This is generally low except during playtimes and PE lessons where injury could occur due to contact with jewellery worn by another person.
- Is there a risk from covering jewellery? There is a potential risk of injury to the wearer from removing tape used to cover jewellery if the tape pulls the jewellery as it is removed. Some people have an allergic reaction to plasters or adhesive tape and this would also need to be considered.

General

- The wearing of small round gold or silver studs in pierced ears is permitted but these will have to be removed for PE and games.
- Except for studs in pierced ears, any other body piercings are not permitted. If a child comes to school wearing a stud in any body piercing other than in the ears, the child will be asked to remove it or, if that is not possible, the parent/carer will be contacted to come and remove it.
- Neck chains, pendants, bracelets, rings and brooches are not permitted, but watches are permitted.

PE and Games Lessons

The wearing of jewellery in PE and games lessons constitutes a hazard as injuries can be caused to the wearer through the jewellery being accidentally caught or knocked. Similarly contact with jewellery can cause injuries to a third party.

- The school policy is that all jewellery and studs in pierced ears must be removed for PE and games lessons. Where removal is not possible because ears have recently been pierced, studs in pierced ears must be taped over. Parents to provide tape and children to tape own ears.

- In the event of a child not co-operating with either removal of jewellery or taping over of studs in pierced ears for PE and games lessons, then she/he will not be permitted to take part and the parent/carer will be informed.

Parents'/Carers' responsibility

- Parents/carers will be advised of the exact details of the school's policy on the wearing of jewellery through the school prospectus and newsletters.
- Parents/carers will be advised not to allow their child to have their ears pierced during term time and that the beginning of the 6-week summer break would be the best time in order to allow sufficient time for the wound(s) to heal.
- In the event of a child coming to school wearing excessive jewellery and/or studs/sleepers in any body piercings other than in the ears, the child will be asked to remove it or, if that is not possible, the parent/carer will be contacted to come to school to remove it.

Staff responsibility

- Staff will not, under any circumstances, be expected to or allowed to examine pupils to see if jewellery or body piercings are being worn.
- Staff will not be expected to or allowed to remove any jewellery or studs/sleepers in pierced ears being worn by a pupil; this will have to be done by the pupil him/herself or by a parent/carer.
- Staff will not, under any circumstances, take any responsibility for the safekeeping of children's jewellery.

School Prospectus

The following statement will be included in the school prospectus:

'Jewellery can cause an accident both to the wearer and to others. Because of health and safety concerns and the risk of losing valuables or precious items, our policy in school is to discourage all jewellery. In particular we are not allowed to let children participate in PE sessions if they are wearing jewellery. If you particularly wish your child to wear jewellery for strong cultural or personal reasons it must be easily removable.'

General

The school will not seek or accept as an alternative to the removal of jewellery and studs/sleepers in body piercings, a parents/carers assurance that she/he will not hold the school liable in the event of an accident/incident. The parent/carer cannot accept liability to the pupils during school activities; this is not allowed by UK or European legislation or Civil Law.