

Our Ref: TM/MT/LR

Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Corporate Director: Ruth Binks

Your Ref: UN/AS

Date: 26th August, 2019

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Dear Parent/Carer

Inverclyde Education 'Health and Safety in PE Code of Practice' instructs staff that all jewellery, watches, belts with metal buckles, etc may cause injury to the wearer or others taking part in PE and that they must, therefore, be removed – **it is not enough to cover the jewellery**. It is absolutely essential that your child complies with this instruction **or they will not be able to participate in practical PE lessons** to ensure that he/she does not suffer unnecessary injury or cause injury to others.

This is a particular difficulty where jewellery is worn as a result of body piercing for several reasons; as jewellery worn in this way may be difficult, or impossible, to remove; such jewellery may be worn on parts of the body which the teacher would not see, normally covered by clothing.

I would ask that you give serious thought to the medical implications of the body piercing process; if you are certain that you wish your child to undertake this you should then ensure that it be done in such a way that jewellery inserted can be removed. It would also be helpful if you could ensure that if your child undertakes this process that it be done during a major holiday period to avoid disruption to your child's classes. **A child cannot undertake PE until healing is complete.**

Finally, I would ask that before you decide to allow your child to undergo body piercing, that you contact your child's Head Teacher so that the possible consequences of such a step can be discussed.

I look forward to your help and co-operation in this for the sake of your child's all-round education.

Yours sincerely



Tony McEwan
Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources

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