



## **Westfields Infant School**

School Lane, Yateley, Hampshire, GU46 6NN

**Executive Headteacher:** Miss J Redman

4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents,

In response to a couple of queries, I am writing to inform you about an important update regarding the wearing of jewellery and the tying back of hair in consideration of health and safety.

In regards to hair, if a child has hair of a length that can be tied back, it should be tied back (this includes girls and boys) for health and safety reasons (including for PE lessons). An additional benefit of this is that we know this reduces the passing on of headlice. It will also be policy that if pupils have items in their hair (bows, bands or clips) that they are not obvious or detract from the smart nature of our uniform and so we request that items are school colours of red, white, black or grey.

With jewellery, apart from wearing a watch, the only other item permitted to be worn is a single set of small, stud earrings – hoops are not to be worn. To be in line with the expectations of the PE Association, Hampshire County Council and with both the junior school and feeder secondary schools in our area, children will no longer be permitted to wear earrings for PE lessons. Children should either not wear their earrings on days when they have PE or they need to independently remove them before the lesson. A class pot for earrings and mirrors will be provided to support children if they do wear earrings on days they have PE lessons or, if they are supplied with a pot in their bag, children can store earrings safely and either take their earrings home or independently put them back in.

To clarify the taping of earrings will no longer be allowed as it creates a perception of safety. In addition to this, staff are not allowed to take out or replace children's earrings. It is fantastic that many children are able to remove and store their own earrings already. As mentioned above and at our Meet the Teacher sessions, in support of this change, this policy will come into effect after half term so in the meantime, children will be encouraged to remove earrings if this is possible however, if it is not yet, tape will be allowed this half term as an exception but care must be taken to effectively cover the spike at the back of the ear lobe.

Your support in this health and safety matter is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Miss Jo Redman  
Executive Headteacher

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