

Friday 14th June 2024

Dear parent/carer,

SUBJECT: Important Health and Safety Information for PE Lessons

This letter addresses two important safety points for our pupils participating in Physical Education lessons: travelling to the Jaffa playing field and wearing jewellery during PE lessons. We kindly ask that you discuss these points with your child at home to reinforce their understanding ensuring a safe and enjoyable learning environment for everyone.

Safe Travel to the Jaffa Playing Field:

While the Jaffa is conveniently located only a short walk from the school, the route requires extra caution. To ensure everyone's safety, we ask all pupils to:

- **Stay on the designated paths and pavements:** This helps us avoid stepping onto private property or the road.
- **Use caution at the bend near Hipswell Church:** Limited visibility requires staying close to the wall as we navigate the bend in the road.
- **Walk together as a class:** This allows for easier communication and supervision by staff.
- **Cross only at the designated crossing:** Pupils must wait for a teacher's signal to any oncoming traffic before crossing.
- **Behave safely and thoughtfully:** Any pupil who behaves in a manner that risks their own safety, the safety of their classmates or a member of the community will be issued with an immediate RS3 behaviour sanction.

Jewellery in PE Lessons:

We have been asked by NYES (North Yorkshire Education Services) to share the updated procedure for jewellery in Physical Education. For everyone's safety, we kindly request that pupils remove all jewellery, including watches, for PE lessons. This includes ALL body piercings except for religious bracelets. Religious bracelets can be covered securely with a sweatband and tape.

Here's why jewellery poses a risk:

- Earrings/studs/sleepers can tear earlobes or cause injuries during physical activity.
- Any type of jewellery can get caught on equipment or clothing, leading to potential accidents.

The National Guidance is that no jewellery, including earrings, studs, and sleepers, should be worn during physical education classes, including swimming and other physical activities. It is not safe to cover earrings/studs/sleepers with tape. If you plan to allow your child to get any new piercings, please consider the appropriate healing time so that the jewellery can be removed for PE lessons.

At the start of every PE lesson, PE teachers will request all jewellery be removed. Pupils are to remove their own jewellery. If your child is unable to do this themselves, please can you ensure your child does not wear jewellery for school. If items of jewellery are brought to school it is the pupil's responsibility to ensure that they are kept safe. The school will not accept any responsibility for their recovery or replacement in the case of loss, theft or damage.



The school takes its duty of care towards pupils very seriously. As such, removing jewellery is mandatory for PE lessons. Where safe participation cannot be assured, the pupil cannot take part in that element of the lesson. Parental disclaimers cannot override national safety guidelines.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at lawson.a@risedale.org.uk

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our pupils safe!

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Lawson Teacher of PE

Important Health and Safety Information for PE Lessons

Safe Travel to the Jaffa Playing Field:

- Stay on the designated paths and pavements
- Use caution at the bend near Hipswell Church
- Walk together as a class
- Wait for staff at the crossing
- Behave safely and thoughtfully





NO JEWELLERY ALLOWED

The National Guidance is that no jewellery, including earrings, studs, and sleepers, should be worn during physical education classes, including swimming and other physical activities.