

# PIERCINGS POLICY

Margaret Aylward Community College  
Thatch Road  
Whitehall  
Dublin 9

Approved by Board of  
Management on xxxx

# PIERCING POLICY

The wearing of body piercing jewellery is a matter of concern for schools. Apart from the risk associated with having a metal object which may cause damage during PE there are other health risks associated with body piercing.

## Health Risks

The healing process following a piercing can be very long – up to one year for some parts of the body. This long-lasting healing time is due to fragile skin (eyebrows) and the rubbing of clothes on the site. Body piercing can get knocked easily, thus upsetting the healing process. The longer the healing the more likely infection can set in. Additionally, areas such as the nose, which contain cartilage, tend to form scar tissue on healing. Tongue jewellery is particularly high risk for PE class. Risks include swallowing, damage –tearing of the tongue and roof of the mouth and damage to teeth.

## School Policy regarding Piercings

1. We recommend that parents take piercing requests by their children very seriously. This is because school life lends itself to physical contact on occasion, and the likelihood of infection is very high in school.
2. One small pair of ear piercings is acceptable.
3. The school is not responsible for injuries caused by piercings.
4. The school policy on piercing is to be distributed to all students and parents.

## Procedure in the event of students not abiding by the above policy

1. Not allowed participate in PE
2. Letter home to remind parents of Margaret Aylward Community College piercing policy