



Rationale

Recent fashions have seen a developing trend of body piercing and tattooing by both men and women. Inevitably this fashion, whatever its source and purpose, gets taken up by students. The result is that a school is forced to clarify what is approved and acceptable to the extent that it impacts College life. In this regard, the College has already clarified as part of its Uniform Policy the limit of one earring per ear (always worn as a pair) in the lower ear lobe as the limit for students to wear to school. These limitations apply when students are in school uniform or participating in school activities, e.g. excursions or camps.

The occurrence of tattooing body piercing and the resulting wearing of studs or rings in places other than the lower lobe of the ear has prompted this clarification of what is acceptable **at school or on school activities**. It is therefore to be noted that:

Policy

- Students are not permitted to have any studs or rings or similar other than those permitted according to the uniform policy.
- Should a student choose to pierce other parts of their anatomy which are visible, then any rings, studs or similar worn will be required to be removed. This particularly applies to face studs or rings or similar worn on lips, mouth, tongue, eyebrows, cheeks and nose or any other facial location other than that permitted by the uniform policy.
- Students are not permitted (even after the age of 18) to have any tattoo that will be visible whilst in attendance at the College or on any College activity. Students may not have a tattoo in a visible place and cover it with a band aid/ Elastoplast or similar.

Students are alerted to the dangers of such piercing and tattooing, both from nerve or tissue damage and infection and the permanence of many such fashions. Students too are encouraged not to blindly follow fashion and allow themselves to be pressured to conform to such fashion trends.

The Biblical Christian position is “to present our bodies (note this reference to the physical) and all its members and faculties as a living sacrifice that is well pleasing to God” (Romans 12:1). Further, God’s Word appeals to us “do not be conformed to this world” (Romans 12:2).

Consequences

- Refusal to comply with uniform and grooming expectations of the College may result in termination of enrolment.
- Parents who support their children in such behaviour will put their children’s enrolment at risk.
- Students may be withdrawn from class until the matter is resolved (hence a speedy resolution will be sought which may include termination of enrolment)
- Students may be withdrawn from certain activities
- Students will not be allowed to attend or will be asked to leave events such as the College Formal if they are in breach of this policy.