

Ramadan - Fasting and Physical Education - Our Policy

Wood Green Academy School fully recognises that fasting during the month of Ramadan is the fourth Pillar of Islam; an act of worship of great spiritual, moral and social significance for Muslims.

This policy has been devised with reference to the following three publications:

- Ramadan Guidance for Schools and Educational Settings -
<https://www.youthsporttrust.org/media/f1dmy2m/ramadan-guidance-for-pe-and-pa.pdf>
- Towards Greater Understanding – Meeting the needs of Muslim pupils in state schools, Information & Guidance for Schools. The Muslim Council of Britain
<https://image.guardian.co.uk/sys-files/Education/documents/2007/02/20/Schoolinfo guidance.pdf>
- Safe Practice in Physical Education, Sport & Physical Activity. Association for Physical Education (www.afpe.org.uk)

Our Policy

1. During Ramadan, all pupils will be expected with reasonable adjustments where necessary, to take part in Physical Education, for the following three reasons:
 - Muslims are encouraged not to use Ramadan as an opportunity to avoid aspects of normal life, but rather to cope with normal life under a different set of guidelines.
 - All children have an entitlement to access a meaningful PE programme that meets the requirements of the National Curriculum while seeking to respect any religious or cultural sensitivities involved wherever possible.
 - The Muslim Council of Britain states that “the majority of pupils who are fasting are able to take part in most physical activities during Ramadan without putting themselves at risk or danger”.
2. PE staff appreciate that during fasting, normal energy resources may become depleted, and the risk of dehydration is increased. As a result, PE staff will ensure that intensity levels in activities may need to be lowered to a point where fasting students may continue to participate safely, and will remain responsive to students’ needs during Ramadan.
3. PE staff will reduce the amount of screen time during Exam PE lessons.
4. PE staff and parents should encourage pupils who are fasting to speak to their PE teacher as soon as possible if they feel that the intensity level in their lesson needs reducing.
5. Parents of fasting students are encouraged to speak to their child’s PE teacher or Head of Physical Education at the earliest opportunity if they have any concerns regarding fasting and Physical Education at Wood Green Academy.