



ASH MANOR SCHOOL



Manor Road Ash Surrey GU12 6QH
Telephone (01252) 353900 Facsimile (01252) 353908
Headteacher: A Bailey BSc, PGCE, NPQH

14th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer



Highly Dangerous Magnetic Beads

There is a trend circulating that involves placing **extremely high strength magnetic** beads (sometimes referred to as Earth Beads), either side of the tongue, to appear as a tongue piercing. By doing this, students are placing themselves at great risk. If swallowed, the beads cause significant internal injury. Emergency surgery would be needed to remove the beads and repair any internal damage.

All information about the magnetic beads and associated risks can be found using the following link, with information provided by the NHS:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2021/05/dangers-of-children-swallowing-magnets-prompts-nhs-call-for-ban/>

Today, I have been informed that a student at a neighbouring school is currently extremely poorly and in hospital having accidentally swallowed some of these magnetic beads. Their family wished to share this information so that no other families were affected from this trend.

We will speak to all students tomorrow to educate about the magnetic beads and risks but would be grateful if you would speak with your child(ren) as well.

If your child has been showing symptoms that include vomiting, sweating and stomach pain, please check that they have not swallowed any of these magnetic beads.

Yours faithfully

Mr E Carradine
DHT & DSL