

13 March 2018



Dear Parent/Carer

I am very pleased to inform you that construction of our new 3G artificial grass pitch is now completed and ready to be used by our students for PE lessons.

In order to ensure prolonged use of the surface, to avoid any injuries to students and to avoid damage to the surface, students should have footwear that complies with the recommendations. Trainers and flat-soled shoes will reduce the lifespan of the carpet of the artificial pitch, and will not grip the surface of the pitch well when it is wet. We will be trying to avoid this footwear on the pitches as much as we can. Please see the diagram overleaf which shows permitted and forbidden footwear.

In general terms, moulded studs or Astro Turf trainers are acceptable. Footwear with blades or screw-in studs will not be permitted on the pitch. Flat sole shoes will be discouraged. Please note that the diagram shows a range of examples by Nike, but this is for visual purposes only, and we are in no way recommending this as a brand. You should be able to get non-branded boots with moulded studs or Astro Turf soles at most local shoe shops and sports shops.

The Academy will have some spare boots, but we need as many students as are able to have footwear in school at all times that complies with the recommendations. If too many students have flat-soled trainers, then we will not be able to use the 3G pitch during some lessons.

If you have any pairs of the permitted footwear that are no longer needed because they are too small or no longer in use, we would welcome donations so that all students can use the pitches. Any donations can be left at the main Academy reception.

May we remind students that although gum is not permitted at all in the Academy, the PE department will be strict with their consequences should any students be found to have gum on the field.

Should you have any questions about the 3G pitch footwear, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Academy on 01903 767434 or by email at mfox@srwa.woodard.co.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Fox
Assistant Principal and PE Teacher



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PERMITTED FOOTWEAR



Artificial Ground (AG) RECOMMENDED

Specifically designed for extra abrasion, these boots usually feature more numerous and densely concentrated studs that vary in height and may be hollowed out.



Firm Ground (FG) RECOMMENDED

Sole plates feature moulded studs which are evenly dispersed across the foot to offer enhanced traction and comfort.



Hard Ground (HG) RECOMMENDED

Sole plates utilise a harder Thermoplastic polyurethanes compound for enhanced durability and typically feature multiple slightly shorter, evenly dispersed studs for optimal pressure distribution.



Turf Trainer (TF) ONLY WHEN DRY

Otherwise known as Astro's, they feature a solid rubber outsole with numerous, small multidirectional lugs spread across the sole, which offer limited grip in wet conditions.

FORBIDDEN FOOTWEAR



Blades CAN CAUSE INJURY

Sole plates feature multiple straight slightly shorter, evenly dispersed studs that can restrict movement and turning which could cause injury.



Soft Ground Pro (SGP) TEAR THE SURFACE

Also known as Hybrid or Mixed Stud, the sole plate comprises of a combination of conical screw-in studs and moulded studs, which are most commonly bladed.



Soft Ground (SG) TEAR THE SURFACE

Sole features removable, replaceable screw-in studs and typically come in a six-stud configuration, with four at the forefoot and two at the heel.



Flat Sole (Indoor) NO GRIP & FLATTEN SURFACE

Sole made up of non-marking materials such as moulded gum rubber and feature pivot points, flex grooves and herringbone patterns.