The spinous process of C2 (axis) is a large, posteriorly orientated process associated with a broad inferiorly concave base and bifid apex.

Obliquus capitis inferior attaches to the lateral surfaces anteriorly and rectus capitis posterior major posteriorly. Multifidus, semispinalis cervicis and spinalis cervicis attach to the inferior concavity anteroposteriorly and interspinales attaches near the apex. The ligamentum nuchae attaches to the apical notch of the spinous process and the interspinous ligament attaches to the inferior margin, in the midline.