



PHYSICAL INTERVENTION AND RESTRAINT POLICY

Revised: Autumn 2019
Next revision : Autumn 2022

DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall have the following meanings for the purposes of this document:

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| the School | means Clifton All Saints Academy |
| SEND | means Special Educational Needs and Disability |
| LA | means Local Authority |
| DBS | means Disclosure and Barring Service |

OBJECTIVE

The key objective in the formulation of this policy is to maintain the safety of all pupils and staff, prevent serious breaches of the school behaviour code and prevent damage to property.

Physical Restraint should be limited to emergency situations and used only in the last resort. This policy has been written from guidance in Use of reasonable force: advice for Headteachers, staff and governing bodies (DfE July 2013).

WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Section 93 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 enables school staff to use such force as is reasonable in the circumstances to prevent a pupil from doing, or continuing to do, any of the following:

- Committing any offence (or, for a pupil under the age of criminal responsibility, what would be an offence for an older pupil)
- causing personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil themselves)
- prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the School or among the pupils receiving education at the School, whether during a teaching session or otherwise.

The staff to which this power applies are defined in section 95 of the Act. They are:

- any teacher who works at the School, and
- any other person whom the Headteacher has authorised to have control or charge of pupils. This includes:
 - Support staff whose job normally includes supervising pupils such as teaching assistants and lunchtime supervisors.
 - people to whom the Headteacher has given temporary authorisation to have control or charge of pupils such as paid members of staff whose job does not normally involve supervising pupils (for example catering or premises related staff), staff from outside

agencies who are coaching, and unpaid volunteers (for example Governors or parents accompanying pupils on school-organised visits).

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

At the School the governors have authorised all school staff to use physical restraint if necessary. The Headteacher is empowered to grant temporary authorisation to other supervising adults.

Wherever possible the person supervising should make efforts to de-escalate any situation so that restraint is not necessary.

Where restraint is necessary, according to the guidance, the degree of force employed must be in proportion to the circumstances. Any force should be the minimum required to restore order. The age, understanding and sex of the child must be considered.

CERTAIN GUIDELINES MUST BE FOLLOWED: -

1. Warn the child what will happen if he/she does not comply. Keep calm and continue to communicate with the child. Make it clear that the physical restraint will stop as soon as it ceases to become necessary.

2. Seek assistance from another adult. Explain to the child that you have sent for help and continue to try and de-fuse the situation.

Physical Interventions might include:

- a) Physically interpose between pupils
- b) Blocking a pupil's path
- c) Holding
- d) Leading child by hand or arm if compliant
- e) Shepherding pupil away by placing a hand in the centre of the back
- f) In extreme circumstance more restrictive holds may need to be used
- g) If a child refuses to leave the room when a teacher feels it necessary; two adults are the minimum number required to escort a pupil from the room.

3. Staff must not act in a way which might cause injury, for example,

- a) Holding around the neck
- b) Slapping, punching, kicking
- c) Twisting limbs
- d) Tripping
- e) Holding or pulling a pupil by the hair or ear
- f) Holding a pupil onto the ground

4. Staff should avoid touching or holding a pupil in a way which might be considered indecent.

5. Restraint should be an act of care and control, not punishment. It should be used to gain compliance with instructions only where there is risk to people or property or serious disruption to the lesson.

6. Detailed written reports of incidents requiring physical restraint should be made. These include the name of the pupil, the place and time of the incident, the names of the

witnesses and the reason why force was necessary. Any injuries suffered by the pupil, any other pupil, any member of staff or damage to property should be recorded.

7. Serious incidents which require use of force can be upsetting to all concerned and may result in injuries to the pupil or staff. Immediate action will be taken to provide first aid for any injuries and to access medical help for any injuries that go beyond first aid. Staff and pupils will also be given emotional support.
8. Parents should be informed either immediately, or as soon as possible after the incident has been dealt with. Parents should be informed by a senior member of staff and not by the staff member involved in the incident, unless it is the Headteacher.

PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND/OR DISABILITIES

1. The SEND Coordinator and parents will be involved in developing the School's practice, ensuring appropriate account is taken of the child's individual needs.
2. Positive handling plans will be developed for individual pupils assessed as being at greatest risk of needing restrictive physical intervention. Any planned use of physical intervention should be compatible with the pupil's statement.
3. Staff who come into contact with such pupils should be made aware of the relevant needs and characteristics of the child.
4. Specific strategies and techniques for physical intervention should be agreed by staff, parents, and the pupil concerned.

STATUTORY FORCE

1. Records of authorised people should be kept.
2. If possible, authorised staff should summon assistance before intervening.

STAFF TRAINING

1. The physical restraint policy is given to new staff as part of the induction process.
2. Training on restrictive holds will be sought from the LA or an accredited organisation if a pupil manifests behaviour which indicates physical restraint may be necessary in the future.

RECORDING AND REPORTING

Systematic records of every significant incident will be kept.

1. The member of staff responsible for safeguarding will check the record.
2. Differing accounts of the same incident will be recorded.
3. Parents will be informed as soon as possible after the incident and may be given a copy of the record. They will be given a copy of the School's policy on physical restraint.
4. The record will be part of the pupil's educational record.
5. Any information passed on to the police may be included in a DBS disclosure. Records will be kept until the member of staff involved has reached normal retirement age or for ten years from the date of the allegation if that is longer.
6. Governors will monitor incidents where force has been used.

POST- INCIDENT SUPPORT

1. Serious incidents may require staff and pupils to be given emotional support.
2. Individual behaviour plans should be set up if not already in place for pupils after an incident involving the use of force. Multi-agency partners should be involved.

COMPLAINTS AND ALLEGATIONS

1. Parents and pupils have the right to complain about actions taken by school staff. If an allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff the School should follow the guidance set out in *Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education*.
2. Other complaints should be dealt with under the School's usual complaints procedures.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed regularly with related policies.