

# Behaviour Management: Physical Intervention Policy

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May 2019

Bettridge is committed to keeping all children safe. This policy should be read in conjunction with our Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) Policy and our Behaviour Policy

The Behaviour Policy promotes a positive approach and attitude towards pupils' behaviour. Praise, reward and encouragement are regarded as the most effective way of supporting pupils to manage their behaviour well.

On occasions some pupils can exhibit behaviours which may need to be managed by using physical intervention. New provisions came into being on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 1998, clarifying the use of force in schools and were revised in July 2002.

## **The Use of Force to Control or Restrain Pupils** **(Sec 550A of 1996 Ed. Act./amended in 2002)**

### **Corporal Punishment**

Any form of corporal punishment (i.e. deliberately intending to punish a pupil by physical contact) is forbidden by law.

### **Using "reasonable force"**

#### **When:**

- To prevent a pupil committing a criminal offence;
- to prevent a pupil injuring themselves or others (including absconding and running in a corridor where they may endanger others);
- to prevent a pupil damaging any property;
- to prevent a pupil behaving in a way which compromises good order and discipline (including seriously disrupting a lesson or refusing to leave the classroom when told to do so).

#### **Who:**

- Teachers;
- any staff authorised by the Headteacher to have control or charge of pupils, which includes all members of staff.

## **How:**

- All staff are trained in Team Teach. Any physical intervention should be in accordance with this training;
  - the needs of the pupils should be paramount in all situations;
  - staff should ensure that any interventions are reasonable, proportionate and necessary;
  - staff should focus on de-escalating behaviour;
  - physical intervention should only be used when all other strategies have failed or circumstances are so severe that immediate intervention is necessary;
  - Restrictive Physical Interventions (RPI) should be in accordance with Team Teach strategies and written into the pupils' Positive Support Plan (PSP).
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- The Safe Space can be used to support a pupil by:
    - providing a calm place to go;
    - providing a calm and safe place to 'let off steam';
    - providing a safe place to be when out of control;
    - providing an alternative to a restrictive hold.
  - Some parents may request an addition form of safety restraint, such as a wrist strap or harness. This must only be used in conjunction with close supervision and only when the child is offsite. There must be a risk assessment and Personal Support Plan which has been agreed and signed by the parents/carers and Headteacher, as well as all staff involved.

## **Recording**

Behavioural incidents that are severe or out of character for a pupil should be recorded on Sleuth.

All RPI's must be recorded on Sleuth, including the use of the Safe Space for RPI.

In all circumstances, where physical intervention is required, a PSP must be written but a PSP can be written for any pupil should it be deemed necessary.

Parents should be part of the process of writing a PSP, which is working document signed by the head teacher, parents and staff working with the pupils. Parents will be informed of any changes to this document.

Parents must be informed about the use of RPI's with their child. How this information is communicated should be agreed between the class team and the parent. The means of communication recorded as part of the PSP (New from January 2017).

Any injury that occurs as part of a behaviour incident must be recorded on Sleuth and an accident form must be completed.