



# ***Regents Park Community College***

## ***Physical Intervention Policy***



## Physical Intervention Statement

### Definition of Physical Restraint:

**When a member of staff uses force with the intention of restricting a student's movement against his/her will.**

### Aim of the policy statement:

To protect both staff and students. The school has also adopted DfE 'Use of reasonable force' advise July 2013.

### Principles:

- Staff have a duty of care to maintain good order and safeguard students' health and safety and well-being.
- Staff engaged in the care and education of children and young people need to **exercise caution in use of physical contact**
- **Staff may not bar the way of a student including use of arms, body or any other means to block a route unless protecting a child from inflicting serious damage on either themselves or from serious physical actions of another student.**
- Staff are not under a duty to run risk of personal injury by intervening physically when it is not safe to do so.
- Teaching staff are skilled in diffusing conflict or potential violent situations using non-physical calming methods as part of their initial training; support staff working closely with students will be guided in use of methods for diffusing conflict or potentially violent situations by link LT member.
- **Staff who are formally designated by the Headteacher to use physical restraint will be informed by the Headteacher directly.**
- Staff are responsible for reporting any physical contact they have made with a student.
- Staff may only use physical intervention and/or restraint when non-physical calming and diffusing strategies have failed.
- Staff may not use physical force as a form of punishment, to modify behaviour, or to make a student comply with an instruction.

- **Staff have the right to intervene physically where:**
  - **they, a student or member of staff is at risk of serious physical harm**
  - **there is risk of significant damage to property which could place staff or students at risk of serious physical harm**
  - **good order or discipline is being seriously compromised with the potential for serious harm to the safety of students**
- **Staff will avoid physical intervention and/or restraint unless it is necessary for the health and safety, such as risk of serious physical harm, of staff and students**
- **Staff will use the minimum of force to resolve a situation.**
- **Staff will act in the best interests of the student and other students at all times.**

#### **Procedures:**

- The Headteacher may formally designate the right to use physical restraint to a member or members of the staff, permanent, part time, temporary and supply.
- If physical intervention and/or restraint is used, it must be reported verbally immediately to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher when deputising for the Headteacher. The member of staff who used physical restraint is to pass a written account promptly to the Headteacher.
- Where good order or discipline is being compromised but safety is not an issue, it will not be normal practice at Regents Park to use physical intervention and/or restraint. (e.g. if a student is refusing to leave a room, the teacher will not use physical restraint ; where the use of non-physical calming methods are not effective, the school's 'on call' system maybe used)
- Physical intervention or restraint of students must not involve pulling of hair, ears, neck, grabbing or blocking airways.
- Parents will be informed where an incident of physical intervention and/or restraint has taken place. (This would not include insignificant physical intervention such as gently guiding a student by the arm out of the way of danger)
- The designated LT member responsible for Health & Safety will complete the Southampton 'RESTRAINT – INCIDENT REPORT FORM' held in the Headteacher's Office.
- It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to ensure that incidents of physical intervention and / or restraint comply with the school's policy and the Local Authority guidelines.

## PHYSICAL RESTRAINT FORM

### 1 Basic Data

Date of Incident \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Yr Grp \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

D/O/B \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address LA: Southampton  Hampshire  Portsmouth

Staff Involved in restraint \_\_\_\_\_ Designation \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Events Leading up to the Incident

2.1 Where did the incident start?

2.2 What was happening at the time?

### 3 Describe the Event that occurred

3.1 When did the incident occur? Day \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

3.2 Where did the incident occur?

3.3 What action did you try to de-escalate the situation before using restraint?

3.4 What behaviour was the child presenting that warranted restraint? (Please tick appropriate box).

3.5  
i) At risk of injury self or others  ii) At risk of significant damage to property

iii) Compromising good order and discipline.  iv) At risk of committing a criminal offence

3.6 What do you believe would have happened if there had been no physical intervention?

- 3.7 How was the student held?
- 3.8 How long did the student need to be held?
- 3.9 Was anybody injured? YES/NO If Yes, please give details
- 3.10 Name of member of staff who verbally checked student for injury after the hold:
- 3.11 Has the student been physically restrained before? YES/NO

#### 4. Implications for Future Planning

- 4.1 Does the student have a Pastoral Support Programme? YES/NO
- 4.2 Does the student have a diagnosed SEN Need? YES/NO (specify)
- 4.3 Do changes need to be made to any of the following? (Please tick appropriate box)
- The environment e.g. organisation, curriculum  Targets for teaching new skills
- Reinforcement Strategies  Defusing and calming strategies
- Other  Please specify
- 4.4 Do other agencies need to be involved in the future? YES/NO  
 If Yes, please specify who and with what aim

#### 5. Follow up Action

- 5.1 Medical intervention was needed YES/NO
- 5.2 Has school nurse/doctor been informed YES/NO
- 5.3 Please specify other recording procedures:
- Accident Book  Accident Form / Skin Map
- Racial Incident Sheet  Violent Incident Record
- 5.4 Parent/Carer informed by Telephone  Letter
- Direct Contact

Form completed by \_\_\_\_\_ Post Held \_\_\_\_\_

Headteacher's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_