



Monken Hadley CE Primary School

Seek what is good, treasure what is true, do what is right.

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT POLICY

Ratified by	Senior Leadership Team
Date	29 th March 2016
Date for Review	Spring Term 2019

Although most children at Monken Hadley CE School will never require any form of physical restraint, staff may have to deal with some young people who exhibit disturbed, distressed and distressing behaviour.

Physical restraint is the positive application of force with the intention of protecting the child from harming himself/herself or others, seriously damaging property or in order to maintain good order and discipline in the classroom. It will only be used in emergency situations as a last resort. To the best possible extent, physical restraint will be implemented by staff certified in a training programme.

Procedures

In the event of physical restraint having been used, it is important to consider the strategies, which are deemed acceptable, and the recording procedures that should be in place. A calm and measured approach to a situation is needed and staff should never give the impression that they have lost their temper or are acting out of anger or frustration when handling a problem.

- Tell the pupil who is misbehaving to stop and state possible consequences of failure to do so;
- If possible summon another adult;
- Continue to communicate with the pupil throughout the incident;
- Make it clear that restraint will be removed as soon as it ceases to be necessary;
- Appropriate follow-up action should be taken, which may include:
 - Providing medical support;
 - Providing respite for those involved.

Recording

Staff should record all incidents of restraint on an Incident Report Form (IRF), clearly stating that Physical Restraint was used. All incidents must be reported to the Headteacher. Details should include:

- Name of pupil(s)
- Staff member(s) involved
- Factors necessitating physical intervention
- The strategies which were employed prior to using physical intervention
- How physical intervention was effected
- Outcome of restraint
- Any other action taken in the management of the incident
- Parents/carers should be contacted as soon as possible and the incident explained to them. This action should also be recorded on the IRF.

Assessing risk for any child likely to behave in a disruptive way, requiring use of reasonable force

Such planning needs to address:

- Involving the parents/carers to ensure that they are clear about the specific action the school might need to take;
- Training staff to ensure they know exactly what action they should be taking;
- Managing the pupil (e.g. reactive strategies to de-escalate a conflict, holds to be used if necessary);
- Ensuring that additional support can be summoned if appropriate.

Complaints

We all have a duty of care to the young people in our school and cannot escape our legal responsibilities by avoiding taking appropriate and necessary action. Involving parents when an incident occurs with their child, together with a clear policy adhered to by the staff, should help to avoid complaints from parents. It will not prevent all complaints, however, and a dispute about the use of force by a member of staff might lead to an investigation, either under disciplinary procedures or by the police and social services department under child protection procedures. Staff, subjected to physical violence or assault, have the right to be supported in making a formal complaint to the police and, if necessary, taking private action against an assailant.