

RESTRAINT POLICY

Responsibility: Deputy Head Pastoral

Date: August 2023

Review: August 2024

POLICY FOR THE USE OF FORCE TO CONTROL OR RESTRAIN STUDENTS

INTRODUCTION

The school is required to have a formal policy for the use of force to control or restrain students. While we recognise that the standards of behaviour at Clayesmore are so good that it might seem superfluous, occasions might arise when it is necessary for a pupil to be restrained.

AIM OF THE POLICY

- To provide for the safety and security of students in need of physical restraint.
- To clarify for staff the occasions when physical intervention might be appropriate, and the steps they are allowed to take.
- To distinguish between physical restraint and corporal punishment.
- To make sure that any restraint is minimal, infrequent, recorded, and communicated to parents.

BACKGROUND

- Staff should read the documentation from DfE which is available at [Use of reasonable force, Reviewed July 2015.pdf](#)

IMPLEMENTATION

Staff may use such force as is reasonable in order to prevent a student from

- Committing a criminal offence
- Injuring themselves or others
- Causing damage to property
- Disrupting good order in the classroom and beyond.

Teachers or others authorised by the Head to have control or charge of students should exercise this responsibility on any occasion where they have lawful control of students.

Appropriate action might be

- Physically interposing between students
- Blocking a student's path
- Holding
- Pushing or pulling
- Leading by the arm
- Shepherding a student by placing a hand in the centre of the back.

Teachers should not act in a way that might reasonably be expected to cause injury.

Specifically, they should NOT restrain a pupil by:

- Restricting breathing
- Slapping, punching or kicking a student
- Twisting a limb
- Tripping
- Holding or pulling by the hair or ear
- Holding face down on the ground

Teachers, unless there is a significant risk of danger to a student, should avoid physical contact with students.

All incidents where staff feel that they have used force to control or restrain should be recorded. Any occurrence should be recorded on MyConcern and should be reported immediately to the Deputy Head Pastoral, who will record it in the Restraint Log.

MANAGEMENT AND CO-ORDINATION

The Deputy Head or the Deputy Head Pastoral must report to the Head, make a record and inform the LADO and parents as appropriate.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

The Head must be informed immediately of all incidents involving restraint.