



Physical Intervention Policy



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This policy has been prepared for the support of all teaching and support staff who come into contact with students within Saint Paul's Catholic High School.

It is designed to explain the school's arrangements for care and control. Its contents should be made available to all parents/carers and students. This policy is drawn from advice contained in the 2013 Department for Education document - [Use of Reasonable Force – Advice for Headteachers, Staff and Governing Bodies](#)

PURPOSE

Good personal and professional relationships between staff and students are vital to ensure good order in our school. It is recognised that the majority of students in our school respond positively to the discipline and control practised by staff. This ensures the wellbeing and safety of all students and staff in school. It is also acknowledged that in exceptional circumstances, staff may need to take action in situations where the use of reasonable force may be required. This policy seeks to ensure that staff in school clearly understand their responsibilities in taking appropriate measures where reasonable force is required. It is essential that staff are well-informed and appropriately trained to deal with these difficult situations and understand fully the rationale and implications of the guidance given in the 2013 Department for Education document - [Use of Reasonable Force – Advice for Headteachers, Staff and Governing Bodies](#). This policy should also be explained to students and made available to parents on request.

PRINCIPLES

All staff and students at Saint Paul's have a right to be treated with respect and dignity; work in a safe and healthy environment and be protected from harm; receive adequate information, support and training. All staff and students at Saint Paul's should follow the school's code of conduct, rules and policies.

Parents of students attending Saint Paul's have a right to expect staff to undertake their duties and responsibilities in accordance with school policies, be informed about school rules, policies and expected conduct for all and be informed of the school's complaints procedure.

APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL CONTACT

Staff at Saint Paul's have a responsibility to act at all times in a manner which reflects positively on their professional status. Whilst it is recognised that there are situations in which appropriate physical contact occurs in the school setting between staff and students, it must be understood that to undertake any form of physical control places staff in a vulnerable situation.

It can only be justified according to those circumstances described in this policy. Staff therefore have a responsibility to seek alternative strategies wherever possible in order to prevent the need, for physical intervention. Reasonable force may only be permissible when it is necessary to prevent a student from:

- Injuring themselves or others
- Causing serious damage to property
- Committing a criminal offence

- Engaging in any behaviour which prevents good order and discipline being maintained in the classroom or elsewhere

- Where no other form of control is available and where it is necessary to intervene.

AUTHORISED STAFF

In line with Department for Education's document on physical intervention all relevant teachers and teaching assistants at Saint Paul's Catholic High School are authorised, within the content of this Policy and the legal position indicated above, to use reasonable force to control or restrain students.

TRAINING SUPPORT

It is the duty of the Head Teacher to ensure adequate training is provided for all authorised staff, teaching and non-teaching, in order to operate this policy. Responsibility for co-ordinating this training will be the responsibility of the Head Teacher. Members of staff will not be expected to undertake the use of reasonable force without knowledge of the school's policy. New staff will be fully briefed to authorise their participation. Training will include clarification of the circumstances when physical intervention should be used. Staff involved in incidents of physical intervention will be offered the opportunity to access personal support, including counselling, at their request to the Head Teacher. All members of the Senior Leadership Team have accredited "De-Escalation Behaviour Management Training" which includes the use of Physical Intervention.

RECORDING & REPORTING

As soon as is reasonably practicable following an incident in which physical force has been used, the member of staff involved will inform the Head Teacher or member of the Senior Leadership Team following this up with a written report (Appendix A). This will then be attached to CPOMs for recording and reporting to relevant staff.

Staff involved will be "debriefed" as soon as is appropriate after the incident by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Please describe the incident and include:

1. What was happening before? 2. What do you think triggered this behaviour? 3. What de-escalating techniques were used prior to physical intervention? 4. Why was a PI deemed necessary? 5. Any other information relevant to include.

Team Teach technique(s) used (tick as appropriate)

Technique	Standing/escort	Sitting/chairs	Kneeling	Ground
Breakaway/defensive				
One person				
Two people				

Please give details below of hold, e.g. single elbow, double elbow, wrap, etc.

How long was the child/young person held?

If the child/young person was held on the ground: Did they go to ground independently?*

Were they taken to ground by staff?*

**tick as appropriate*

Good practice dictates that schools should review what happened and consider what lessons can be learned, which may have implications for the future management of the student. These need not be added to this form but should be incorporated in the individual plans for the child.

Has the child/young person been held before?	Yes/No
<i>A child/young person should have an individual plan clearly detailing reactive strategies and physical intervention approaches if they have been involved in physical interventions on more than one occasion.</i>	
Does the individual support plan need to be reviewed as a result of this incident?	Yes/No
Does the risk assessment need to be reviewed as a result of this incident?	Yes/No
If yes, who will action and when? (Less than four weeks)	

Who was the incident reported to, and when?	
.....	
Was there any medical intervention needed?	Yes/No
Include names of any injured person and brief details of injuries	
.....	
.....	
Please specify any related record forms	

Accident Book	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anti Bullying and Racist Incident Record Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skin Map	<input type="checkbox"/>	Violent Incident Record	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Complaints recorded	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)			

Was the student debriefed?	Yes/No
Were staff offered a debrief?	Yes/No
Was it taken up?	Yes/No

Parents/carers were informed

Date	Time	By whom?	By direct contact, telephone, letter?

Form completed by:	Name	Designation	Date and time

Please upload to CPOMs

