


<i>Physical Intervention Policy</i>	
DATE OF REVIEW: Spring 2026	
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: Summer 2028	
TO BE REVIEWED BY: Governing Board	

Physical Intervention

The school recognises that physical intervention is one form of **restrictive intervention**.

Restrictive interventions include any physical or non-physical action that limits a pupil's movement, liberty or independence in order to maintain safety. This includes the use of reasonable force and, where applicable, seclusion.

We acknowledge that staff must only ever use physical intervention as a last resort, when a child is endangering him/herself or others, and that at all times it must be the minimal force necessary to prevent injury to another person.

Such events should be recorded and signed by a witness on the school CPOMS system. Records must include who was involved, what happened, why the intervention was necessary, the type and duration of the intervention, the outcome and any follow-up actions. Parents or carers will be informed of any significant restrictive intervention **as soon as practicable**, usually on the same day, unless this would place the child at increased risk.

Staff who are likely to need to use physical intervention will be appropriately trained.

We understand that physical intervention of a nature which causes injury or distress to a child may be considered under child protection or disciplinary procedures.

We recognise that touch is appropriate in the context of working with children, and all staff have been given 'Safe Practice' guidance to ensure they are clear about their professional boundary.

Physical intervention and other restrictive interventions are used **only as a last resort**, when all reasonable de-escalation strategies have been exhausted, and only to maintain safety.

Any use must be **lawful, necessary, proportionate and time-limited**, and cease as soon as the risk has reduced.

Restrictive interventions, including reasonable force, must **never** be used as a punishment, to enforce compliance, or as part of routine behaviour management.

The school prioritises **early intervention, relational practice and de-escalation strategies** to reduce the need for restrictive interventions.

For pupils with SEND or additional vulnerabilities, behaviour support plans and risk assessments identify proactive strategies, reasonable adjustments and de-escalation approaches to minimise the need for restrictive interventions.

Staff must always use the **least restrictive option available**, applying professional judgement in response to the level of risk presented.

Following any restrictive intervention, the incident will be reviewed. Where appropriate, behaviour support plans, risk assessments and reasonable adjustments will be updated to reduce the likelihood of recurrence.

The governing body monitors the use of restrictive interventions, reviews patterns and ensures compliance with statutory guidance.