



Capel Primary School



Physical Intervention Policy

Next Review Due: **Autumn 2014**

Staff

04/02/14

Sub Committee

11/02/14

Govs

04/02/14

Rationale

The Purpose of this policy is as follows:

- to protect the interests and well being of children for whom staff have a shared responsibility
- to protect staff in the fulfilment of their responsibilities to children

Aims

The aim of this policy is to define the circumstances in which staff may judge it necessary and appropriate to apply physical intervention to control or restrain a child.

Objective

This policy will provide a reinforcement of the school's behaviour policy that emphasises the principles of positive and balanced behavioural management.

Circumstances Necessitating Physical Intervention

There are three main categories of incidents in which physical intervention is appropriate:

Where action is necessary in self defence or because there is an imminent risk of injury

- should a pupil attack a member of staff, another pupil or is self harming
- when pupils are fighting

Where there is potential for injury or of significant damage to property

- a pupil is engaged in, or is on the verge of committing, deliberate damage to property
- a pupil is causing, or is at risk of causing, injury or damage by accident, by rough play, by out of control behaviour or by the misuse of objects
- a pupil is running in an inappropriate location that may cause injury
- a pupil tries to leave the school without permission and such an action is judged to put them or others at risk within the community

Where a pupil is behaving in a way that is compromising good order and discipline

- a pupil persistently refuses to leave a learning environment
- a pupil behaves in a way that is seriously disrupting the learning of other members of a class

There may be occasions when the school can anticipate the behaviour of a child that may require physical control or restraint. Each individual case will be considered independently of others, but an agreed approach will encompass all the following points

- managing the pupil
- involving the child and their guardians in developing a plan of action
- making the staff aware of specific circumstances and plans of action
- planning where additional support can be summoned
- ensuring that the individual needs of the child are taken into account

Appropriate Physical Intervention

Every physical intervention should be planned and conducted within the context of recognised strategies for the use of reasonable force. The categories of appropriate physical intervention are:-

1. Escorting
2. Holding
3. Restraining

The appropriate form of intervention will only be employed as a result of the circumstances stated in the 'Circumstances Necessitating Physical Intervention' section of this policy. No other forms of physical intervention are permitted.

The provision applies when a teacher or authorised person is on school premises, and when he or she has lawful control of the children, for example during an out of school activity.

Authorised Persons

All teachers and teaching assistants may use physical intervention to control or restrain children. The Headteacher may withdraw this authorisation in certain circumstances where specific behaviour management strategies are in place.

All other staff (including voluntary helpers) must be authorised by the Headteacher to use physical intervention. This can either be on a permanent or a short-term basis.

Recording and Reporting

Where physical intervention has occurred, a record of the occasion will include

- the name(s) of the pupils involved
- the name(s) of all staff involved
- the name(s) of all witnesses
- when and where the incident occurred
- the nature of the physical intervention used
- the reason for the physical intervention
- a detailing of the incident, including any verbal exchanges

- details of all injuries sustained
- details of damage to property

This must be recorded on the day of the incident and given to the Headteacher. The record must be signed and dated by the member of staff who dealt with the matter.