



Physical Intervention Policy

This policy will support staff to manage incidents of physical intervention with confidence and consistency, ensuring their response supports the values and the ethos of the school, ensuring the best interests of all stake holders.

Version number	2.0
Consultation groups	Safety Intervention Instructors, SEMH and Pastoral Leads and SENDCOs.
Approved by	Trust Leader (CEO)
Approval date	2 February 2022
Adopted by	Advisory Board
Adopted date	
Implementation date	February 2022
Policy/document owner	Trust Safeguarding and Behaviour Lead
Status	Statutory
Frequency of review	Every two years
Next review date	January 2024
Applicable to	All Discovery Primary Schools – the Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that all school specific information is completed.

Document History

Version	Version Date	Author	Summary of Changes
V0.1	August 2019	Megan Williams	Policy created
V1.0	September 2019	Helen Stockill	Policy approved
V2.0	January 2022	Megan Williams	Policy updated to reflect CPI Safety Intervention implementation

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1. Introduction

All behaviour is a form of communication. At Parkland Primary School all staff have a duty to understand what the children's behaviour communicates, while responding in ways that help everyone to stay safe and nurture trauma informed care for all.

All staff work positively and confidently with pupils and find the least intrusive way possible to support and empower them and keep them safe through:

- protecting and promoting children's rights;
- understanding children's needs;
- building relationships of trust and understanding;
- understanding triggers and finding solutions; and if incidents do occur
- knowing enough about the child and positive behaviour support techniques to defuse the situation and/or distract the child wherever possible, minimizing the intensity of the incident.

There are times when pupil's behaviour presents particular challenges that may require restrictive physical intervention. We define restrictive physical intervention as 'Intervention where a member of staff uses force intentionally to restrict a child's movement against his or her will'.

This policy sets out our expectations for the use of such intervention. It is not intended to refer to the general use of physical contact which might be appropriate in a range of situations, such as:

- giving physical guidance to children (for example in practical activities and PE);
- providing emotional support when a child is distressed;
- providing physical care (such as first aid or toileting).

We understand there are some children for whom physical contact would be inappropriate (such as those with a history of physical or sexual abuse, or those from certain cultural/religious groups). We pay careful attention to issues of gender and privacy, and to any specific requirements of certain cultural/religious groups.

2. Linked Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Behaviour Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Suspensions and Exclusions Policy
- Pupil Mental Health Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- SEND Policy

3. Legislation and Statutory Requirements

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on:

- Behaviour and discipline in schools
- Searching, screening and confiscation at school
- The Equality Act 2010
- Use of reasonable force in schools

4. Principles for the use of Restrictive Physical Intervention

4.1 The context of Positive Approaches

Restraint of any kind can have a negative impact on a child's mental health and damage relationships between children and those who care for them. Therefore, restrictive physical intervention is only used where the risks involved in using force are outweighed by the risks involved in not using force.

Restricted physical intervention is used only as a last resort. We aim to do all we can to avoid using restrictive physical intervention therefore, we would only use restrictive physical intervention where we judge that there is no reasonably possible, less intrusive action; as a last resort once other alternatives have not proved effective enough. There may be rare situations where we judge that we would need to use restrictive physical intervention immediately, where the potential risk of harm is very high and immediate.

We would use restrictive physical intervention at the same time as using other positive behaviour strategies which are outlined in our behaviour policy.

Safety is always a paramount concern and staff are not advised to use restrictive physical intervention if it is likely to put themselves at risk. We will make parents/carers aware of our Physical Intervention Policy, alongside other policies, when their children are at our school.

Parkland Primary School has adopted the de-escalation techniques of CPI Safety Intervention.

4.2 Duty of Care

We have a duty of care towards the pupils in our setting. The use of restrictive physical intervention may be justified where a pupil is:

- Committing an offence (or, for a pupil under the age of criminal responsibility, what is deemed at the level of a criminal offence).
- Causing personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil themselves).
- Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the school or among any pupils receiving education at the school, whether during a teaching session or otherwise.

Restrictive physical intervention may also be appropriate where, although none of the above have yet happened, they are judged as highly likely to be about to happen.

Our duty of care extends beyond our site boundaries: there may also be situations where we need to use restrictive physical intervention when we have control or charge of children off site, for example on trips.

In most cases, consistent application of the school's behaviour policy and positive behaviour management techniques, are successful in resolving conflicts. The decision on whether to use restrictive physical intervention is down to the professional judgement of the member of staff concerned and is judged on a case-by-case basis, depending on the circumstances. However, incidents of physical restraint must:

- Always be used as a last resort
- Be applied using the minimum amount of force and for the minimum amount of time possible
- Be used in a way that maintains the safety and dignity of all concerned
- Never be used in anger or as a form of punishment
- Be recorded on school systems and reported to parents

4.3 Reasonable Force

All staff are aware of the distinction between physical contact or touch (used appropriately in everyday situations to support, encourage, guide or comfort a pupil) and the use of force to restrict movement or to disengage from pupils whose behaviour presents a clear risk of injury.

Guiding children by the hand or supportive touch do not include an element of force, therefore it is not restraint. When we need to use restrictive physical intervention, it is applied as an act of care and control within the principle of reasonable force (using the minimum amount of force and for the minimum amount of time necessary), with the intention of re-establishing verbal control as soon as possible and, at the same time, allowing the pupil to regain self-control and help them find a better way to deal with the situation.

5. Staff Training

The Headteacher, in consultation with the SENDCo, decide which staff require Safety Intervention training in order to meet the needs of the pupils they work with. This is evaluated and reviewed on an individual pupil basis.

Key staff members receive CPI Safety Intervention training, which is accredited by the Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) and refreshed annually. <u>Appendix 1</u> contains a list of the staff members at Parkland Primary School trained in Safety Intervention.

This Safety Intervention programme is designed to consider the care, welfare, safety and security of pupils, as well as defuse challenging situations. Safety Intervention trains staff to use reasonable force, if necessary, to prevent pupils from harming themselves or others.

CPI Safety Intervention provides a gradual, graded system of response proportionate to the situation, task and individuals involved. There is an emphasis on appropriate and targeted verbal and non-verbal communication as well as de-escalation strategies.

6. Safe spaces

At Parkland Primary School we have two purpose built safe spaces. These are spaces where children can safely calm from crisis behaviours and/or are feeling anxious and need a room to calm down. These spaces are viewed as a positive intervention and a safe environment for children to calm from crisis and are furnished with 'soft play' shapes to sit on/hide under and use to safely take out remaining frustrations or anger. Under no circumstances will children be sent to the safe space as a form of punishment.

Children are encouraged to ask to go to the safe space when they are displaying crisis behaviours and need some time away from their peers. Some pupils will ask to go to the safe space during times of distress. In this instance they may choose to be alone, or not, and they may choose to have the door open or closed. On occasion staff will direct pupils to the safe space using language and/or visual communication aids. Where pupils respond positively to this direction, they may choose to be alone, or not, and they may choose to have the door open or closed.

There are some occasions where a small number of pupils display crisis behaviour before choosing or being directed to the safe space. On these occasions staff may choose to make the environment safe by asking other pupils and staff to go to an alternative room. Alternatively, staff may choose to physically escort the pupil to the

safe space in order to manage the crisis behaviour and make the situation safe following our <u>principles for the use of Restrictive Physical Intervention.</u>

If staff do physically intervene, they should always be intending to escort the pupil to a safer space, i.e., an environment where the risks associated with the behaviour are reduced for all concerned. This would involve staff guiding or escorting the pupil to a safe space. Once in the safe space staff need to decide to either:

- 1) Remain in a physical restraint because the pupil is at risk of absconding or continuing to hurt themselves, peers, or members of staff.
- 2) Disengage and give the pupil space in the safe environment.

When staff disengage from physical intervention it is always the intention that a member of staff remains in the safe space with the pupil. It may be suitable for a change of face and a different staff member to join the pupil.

Where the safe space is used by pupils displaying crisis behaviour, patterns will be analysed over time in order to try to reduce crisis behaviours. Where crisis behaviours are increasing staff will review behaviour management strategies, particularly de-escalation strategies, in order to ensure that crisis patterns start to reduce.

7. Recording and Monitoring

Incidents of restrictive physical intervention must be recorded by staff, using the agreed Hold Until Safe (HUS) form kept with the pastoral files on the whole school Team page. <u>Appendix 2</u> shows an example of an HUS form.

The HUS form must be completed within 24 hours of the incident however, it is preferable that this is fully completed by the end of the day that the incident takes place.

All staff involved in the incident should read and sign the completed paperwork to indicate their agreement of content. The HUS form is then inserted in the bound physical intervention book stored in the pastoral office. The number generated from the completion of the form in the front of the Hold Until Safe book must be written on top of the Hold Until Safe form. The HUS form also needs to be uploaded to CPOMs under the Physical Intervention category, ensuring all relevant staff are alerted.

Parents/Carers must be contacted on the day of the incident, as soon as is practicable, to inform them that a restrictive physical intervention has taken place. The following information must be provided:

- When and where the incident took place
- Why physical intervention was used
- What physical intervention was used (disengagements, holds, transitions)
- Whether there were any injuries
- What follow up action (support and /or disciplinary) was being taken in relation to their child

No message will be left on answerphones about the nature of the incident, instead a message to contact the school will be left. If the parent has not returned the call by the end of the school day a message in the home school diary or book bag should be used to indicate that there has been a behaviour issue and requesting that the parent telephone the school to discuss it further. If class teams have left the premises before parents/carers have called back, it is their responsibility to inform the member of SLT, or the pastoral team, so they can take the telephone call if it comes through.

8. Supporting and Reviewing

We recognise that it is distressing to be involved in a physical intervention, whether as the child being held, the person doing the holding, or someone observing or hearing about what has happened. After any incident our aim is to repair any potential strain to the relationship between the child and the people that were involved in the restrictive physical intervention.

Following restrictive physical intervention, we give support to the child so that they can understand why it was necessary. Where we can, we record how the child felt about this. This is done through restorative conversations, between the pupil and staff members involved, to rebuild the relationship. The conversation is non-judgmental and aims to identify new strategies and skills for all concerned so that they are better equipped to deal with challenging behaviour without the need to resort to physical intervention in the future. During this time, the child will be asked whether they have been injured so that appropriate first aid can be given. This also gives the child an opportunity to say whether anything inappropriate has happened in connection with the incident.

Some pupils may not have the expressive or receptive skills to fully engage in a repair session. Where this is the case, staff will explore alternative strategies such as social stories in order to explain why certain actions are taken and teach alternative behaviour management skills for the future.

Following the restrictive physical intervention, a full reflective debrief will be held with all members of staff involved, and when needed, chaired by a member of the Senior Leadership Team, to ensure that triggers can be identified, and points for future development can be agreed and implemented. We also support adults who were involved, either actively or as observers, by giving them the chance to talk through what has happened with the most appropriate person from the staff team.

9. Safety Support Plans

Where specified in a risk assessment or after any incidence of restrictive physical intervention a Safety Support Plans (SSP) is drawn up by the SENDCo, class teacher and other relevant staff, using the agreed school proforma – <u>Appendix 3</u>.

An SSP is the agreed strategies (non-verbal, verbal and physical) that aim to support the pupil, providing them with a sense of security, safety and acceptance, allowing for recovery and repair, facilitating learning and growth.

SSP's are working documents and are reviewed by the SENDCo, class teacher and other relevant staff regularly to ensure that they are still effective and consider the relevant needs of the child. Copies of SSP's need to be signed by:

- The Headteacher
- The SENDCo
- The Class teacher
- The parent/carer
- The child (where appropriate)

Schools do not require parental consent to use force on a pupil but makes policies available to parents. All SSP's will be shared with the class team involved with the child and then made available for all in the pastoral files on the whole school Team page.

SSPs will be shared with new staff when a pupil transfers between classes and when they transfer to a new school. Consistency of practice will be a focus during transitions.

10. Roles and Responsibilities

The Advisory Board:

The Advisory Board helps set general guidelines on standards of discipline and behaviour and monitor the use of restrictive physical intervention.

Headteacher:

The Headteacher will ensure relevant staff have received training in de-escalation strategies to reduce the need for restrictive physical intervention as well as ensuring that named personnel have received Safety Intervention training. The Headteacher has the responsibility for informing the Advisory Board of the number of incidents of restrictive physical intervention on a termly basis and ensuring appropriate behaviour records are kept.

SENDCo:

The SENDCo will sign off all HUS forms and ensure these are stored in the bound logbook as well as recorded on CPOMs. They will provide written or verbal advice to staff. On a termly basis the SENDCo will review SSP with key adults and parents to. The SENCO will also provide support for day-to-day incidents of behaviour that requires restrictive physical intervention, including having debriefs with staff involved in restrictive physical intervention.

All staff:

All staff members will proactively try to de-escalate situations to reduce the need for restrictive physical intervention. Where restrictive physical intervention is required, staff must document this using a HUS form and ensure all staff members involved have signed this. Staff will share SSPs and/or incidents of restrictive physical intervention with parents/careers.

11. Concerns and Complaints

The use of restrictive physical intervention is distressing to all involved and can lead to concerns, allegations or complaints of inappropriate or excessive use.

If a child or parent/carer has a concern about the way restrictive physical intervention has been used, complaints will be managed following the school's complaints procedure.

Where there is an allegation of assault or abusive behaviour, the headteacher will be immediately informed and follow our child protection procedures.

12. Review

This policy will be reviewed by Discovery's Safeguarding and Behaviour Lead every two years.

Appendix 1: Staff members Safety Intervention trained

Staff Name	Role/Year Group	Next Refresher Date
Sarah Phillips	Assistant head	Sept'23
Rachel Jobey	LSA Yr6 and EYFS	Sept'23
Tracy Parkinson	Cover supervisor Y3	Sept'23
Clare Hill	SENCo	Sept'23
Lucy Pears	Teacher Yr2	Sept'23
Jane Day	Cover supervisor Y5/6	Sept'23
Julie Lynch	LSA Yr3	Sept'23
Michelle Stevenson	LSA Yr2	Sept'23
Preeti Wilson	Teacher Yr2	Sept'23
James Scarborough	Teacher EYFS	Sept'23
Hannah Ward	Office staff	Sept'23
Sadie Owen	Teacher Yr1	Sept'23
Vanessa Smith	ELSA	Nov'23
Laura Taylor	Teacher Yr6	Nov'23
Yasmin Woodstock	LSA EYFS and Y3	Nov 23
Nancy Giles	LSA Y2 and Y3	Nov 23
Natasha Lewitt	LSA Yr1	Feb '24
Jo Andrews	Head teacher	Feb '24
Luke Garner	Teacher Yr6	Feb '24
Tee Butterworth	Pastoral lead	Feb'24
Helen Shipley	LSA Yr3	Feb'24
Dawn Pawley	TA EYFS	Feb'24
Donna Mumford	ELSA	Feb'24
Julie Fay	LSA Yr6	Feb'24
Andrew Hayes	Deputy head	Feb'24
Sarah Duckett	Pre-school manager	Mar '24
Aimee Sperry	Pastoral	Mar '24

Natasha West	LSA EYFS and Y4	May '24
Claire Brienza	Pastoral	May '24
Sam Divers	Teacher EYFS	May '24
Sam North	LSA Yr4	May '24

Appendix 2: Holding Until Safe (HUS) Form

Sa	fety Interve			_	fe		XXX
	In	cident Re	por	t		DIS	COVERY
Pupil Name:			[DOB:			
Location of Incident:			ı	Date:			
Full Names of Staff I	nvolved:						
Start Time of Inciden	t: End Time of Inc	ident: Any	/ injur	ries	Furth	ner information re: inju	ries
Duration of restraint	s:	Me	dical	Check:			
External Contact	Date/Time	By who	m	To wh	om	Records Complete	ed .
Parent/Carer						AssessNet Form (a	ccident form)
School						First Aid log	
Social Worker						CPOMs	
Medical Staff						Other (e.g., susper	nsion documents).
Police							
Other							
 Triggers Duration of Parent response Environment and Tri		S					
Nature of Risk							
Injury to Person	Seriou	s Disruption			Abscond	ing	
Damage to Property	Crimin	al Offence		1	Bullying		
Describe Precisely w Who was at risk?	iiut tile lisk was.						

Managing Risk					
	15 111 111 111				
	nd De-escalation Attempted	: T	A1 -	atata a	
Verbal advice and suppo			Apolo		
Giving space	Time out/awa	y from class		ving audience	
Reassurance	Take up Time	/f		rtive touch	
Negotiation	Transfer Adult	, ,	Humo	ur	
Limit Setting	Success Remir	naers	Other		
Physical Intervention States Transitions	Low	Mediu	ım	Hig	h
Transitions	LOW	ivieuit	ип	пів	II.
Small Child	Low	Mediu	um	Hig	h
Standing hold		- III Cuit			
Seated chair hold					
Seated kneeling hold					
Young Person	Low	Mediu	um	Hig	h
Standing hold					
Seated chair hold					
Strike	Upper	Lowe	er	Combin	ation
Small Child	Low	Mediu	um	Hig	h
Wrist disengagement					
Clothes					
disengagement				-	
Hair disengagement					
Body disengagement					
Neck disengagement					
Bite disengagement					
Young Person	Low	Mediu	um	Hig	n
Wrist disengagement					
Clothes					
disengagement					
Hair disengagement					
Body disengagement					
Neck disengagement					
Bite disengagement	to an agreed place? Vec/Ne	1			
was the pupil removed Where?	to an agreed place? Yes/No				
How long for?					
Brief description of the	staff intervention:				

Pupils response:	
Incident review with pupil	
Date:	
By whom:	
Comments:	
Debrief with staff	
Date:	
By whom:	
Comments:	
Actions/Outcomes from incident	
igned(by all staff named on form)	
ine Manager SignedDateDate	

Appendix 3: Safety Support plan (SSP)

DISCOVERY	ety Interventi	on – Safety Support Plan	[Instert School Logo]	
Pupil Name:		DOB:		
Date of Plan:		Review Date of SSP:		
My Circle of Support: (The people who are important to me	e. mv friends a	nd the people who help an	nd support me)	
Important people:	My friends:		Key adults in school:	
Primary Preventative Interventions (Getting the right fit between my nee	ds and my sup	oport)		
What strengths, gifts and qualities do (Getting to know me)		. ,		
(detting to know me)				
What is important me? What works f	or me?			
(What matters most to me right now, well; what keeps me active, engaged a			es a good day; what keeps me safe an	ıd
What doesn't work for me?	6 1 1		6	
(What makes for a bad day; what do I	find unpleasar	nt or distressing; what do I p	orefer to avoid)	
What does good care and support loo	ok like for me?			

(Identify the 'best fit' in terms of the care and support consider any previous traumatic events, so that the sup	
Precipitating Factors/Triggers/ Background Factors	
Internal and external factors which trigger or accelerate	e my risk or crisis behaviour.
My Precipitating Factors/Triggers (My flash points, triggers, and common conflicts that ca	auca my hahayigur ta accalata)
(why mash points, triggers, and common connects that ca	ause my benaviour to escalate)
Secondary Preventative Intervention	
(What helps me to manage my triggers; what decelerate	ates and de-escalates my risk or crisis hehaviour)
Anxiety Level	Supportive Approaches
(My known observable behaviour)	(My calming and support strategies)
	Verbal advice and support
	Giving space
	Reassurance
	Negotiation
	Limit Setting
	Planned ignoring
	Time out/away from class
	Take up time
	Transfer adult (fresh face)
	Success reminders
	Empathic listening
	Apologising
	Removing audience
	Supportive touch
	Humour
Defensive Level	Directive Approaches
(My known observable behaviour)	(My calming and support strategies)
1	1

Risk or Crisis Behavio (Crisis behaviour wh	our ich is likely to cause harm to sel	f or other)	
Risk Behaviour Level	I		
My risk behaviours a	are:		
The level of risk to m	nyself and/or others is:		
My preferred strates	gies to minimise harm are:		
Any necessary restri	ctive interventions staff may ne	ed to use include:	
To minimise trauma	and distress when using restrict	ive interventions, staff should:	
Post Crisis Support (My preferred way of	managing my emotions after a crisis	s event)	
Tension Reduction		Therapeutic Rapport	a alcoda c
After a crisis event, I pr	ejer to:	Support from staff should in	nciuae:
Any medical condition	ons to be taken into account bef	ore using Physical intervention	s?
	Optional Physic	cal Intervention to be used	
	Low	Medium	High
Disengagements			
Young person			
Standing Hold			1

Seated Hold			
Small child			
Standing Hold			
Small child Seated			
Hold (on a chair)			
Small Child Seated			
Hold (kneeling)			
How should we record incidents - who Communicate to Head Teacher (Name Complete HUS (Hold Until Safe)		aff etc.	
Upload to CPOMS Report to parent/carer			
Upload to CPOMS	Name	Signature	
Upload to CPOMS Report to parent/carer	Name	Signature	
Upload to CPOMS Report to parent/carer Role	Name	Signature	
Upload to CPOMS Report to parent/carer Role Headteacher	Name	Signature	
Role Headteacher SENCO	Name	Signature	
Role Headteacher SENCO Parent/carers	Name	Signature	