

CHRISTCHURCH RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL

COLLEGE PRINCIPAL GROUP

Management

NAG 5 Policy **Health and safety**

Procedure **1.7 Use of physical restraint on a student (To be used in conjunction with Procedure 5.1.4 "Adult Physical Contact")**

This procedure is guided by the Crimes Act 1961: Section 48: Self-defence of another (Everyone is justified in using, in the defence of him/herself or another, such force as, in the circumstances as he or she believes them to be, it is reasonable to use.)

Use of physical restraint:

If any student is an immediate danger to themselves, the teacher or others, the teacher may use physical restraint if needed and / or contact the police immediately. Call 111

Staff may make legitimate use of physical restraint if all non-physical interventions have been exhausted or are impossible in the circumstances i.e.

- attacking another student or adult
- Posing an immediate danger to him/ herself or others
- Self-defence: All people have the right to defend themselves against attack provided they do not use a disproportionate degree of force to do so. "Reasonable force" is understood as using minimum force needed.

Examples of non-physical intervention-

- Calming talk, persuasion
- Walking beside antagonist
- Removing dangerous objects
- Removing students from area

Use of appropriate physical force may be permitted to ensure that the employer's duty of care to protect students and staff from foreseeable risk of injury is met.

Under law, parental consent is not required to use physical restraint.

Parents must be informed immediately after the restraint with all relevant information.

Guidelines:

It must always be the minimum force needed to achieve the desired result, and take into account the age, stature, disability, understanding and gender of the student. (The restraint must be reasonable in the particular circumstances and must be in proportion to the circumstances of the incident.)

Where staff believe that a restraint appears imminent or intervention may increase the likelihood of injury to themselves or others, a staff member should shepherd other students away from danger and seek immediate help from other staff or police. Staff are not expected to place their own safety at risk in responding to violence or aggression in others and are supported by Workplace Health and Safety legislation in making this judgment.

Staff are to use physical restraint only as a last resort **and not as a response to:**

- property destruction
- disruption to the education or care activity
- refusal to comply
- verbal threats
- leaving a classroom or the school
- a need to maintain good order unless someone's safety is clearly threatened.

Following an incident any staff will ensure all students' wellbeing is intact.

Subsequently management will ensure the staff member's wellbeing is cared for.

An incident report to the College Principal Group must be written by the staff member as soon as possible to formally record the disclosure. Including:

- The date, time, location and the names of any staff that may be relevant.
- The factual concerns or observations that led to the necessity for restraint
- What the student said and did
- The action taken
- Any other information that may be relevant.

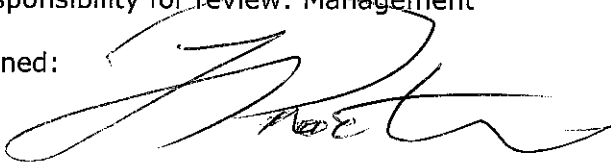
Staff who may be expected to use physical restraint will be given access to training.

Written: 7th September 2016

Responsibility for administering this procedure: Management

Responsibility for review: Management

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. E. L.', written over a horizontal line.

Review Date: September 2019