



St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School

Physical Restraint Policy

Policy Owner	Headteacher
Governing Body Committee	MECP
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This policy is available at <http://www.st-bonaventures.bristol.sch.uk/>



Version History

Version	Date	Page	Description of Change	Origin of Change
1.0	15.06.15		New Policy	

Introduction

We believe that every member of our school community should feel valued respected and treated as an individual in accordance with our school vision:

“Striving to be the best we can, guided by the light of Christ”

Central to this vision is the expectation that the children at St Bonaventure’s will display high standards of behaviour and treat other people as they would wish to be treated themselves.

Our school Behaviour Policy is designed to support the way in which all members of our school community can live and work together. It is a whole school approach and all members of staff have a responsibility to maintain positive behaviour throughout the school. The Behaviour Policy aims to promote an environment which helps children develop into confident, well motivated and hardworking pupils who enjoy school have high self-esteem and go on to achieve their full potential. We endeavour to achieve this in many ways but the most important include:

- being genuinely interested and concerned for the pupils and staff in our school.
- always being willing to take the time to help the pupils feel better about themselves and to listen seriously to any of their concerns.
- recognising and praising the many positive qualities our pupils show.

However, at St Bonaventure’s we recognise that at times a minority of children may significantly deviate from the Behaviour Policy. However the overriding principle relating to the use of physical restraint positive is that the best interests of the child take precedence over every other consideration. Physical restraint should be limited to emergency situations and used only in the last resort. Under Section 9.3 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, staff have the right to use “reasonable force” in restraining or holding a pupil. It enables teachers and other members of staff in the school, authorised by the Headteacher to use such force as is reasonable to prevent a pupil from:

- harm;
- committing an offence;
- causing personal injury to or damage to the property of any person (including the pupil him/herself); and/or
- engaging in any behaviour prejudicial to the maintenance of good order and discipline at the school or among its pupils, whether during a teaching session or otherwise.

Aim

1. To protect every person in the school from harm.
2. To protect all pupils against any form of physical intervention that is unnecessary, inappropriate excessive or harmful.

3. To provide adequate information and training for staff so that they are clear as to what constitute appropriate behaviour and to deal effectively with violent or potentially violent situations.

Guidelines

1. It is unlawful for a member of staff to use any degree of physical contact which is deliberately intended to punish a pupil, or which is primarily intended to cause pain or humiliation.
2. Physical intervention should only be used when dialogue and diversion have failed to stop the behaviour and should always be the minimum needed to achieve the desired results, taking into account the age and size of the child.
3. For all staff physical intervention may be appropriate:
 - where action is necessary in self-defence or because there is an imminent risk of injury eg pupil attack on another pupil or pupils fighting; and/or
 - where there is a developing risk of injury or significant damage to property eg deliberate vandalising of property.
4. For the Headteacher or member of SLT reasonable force may be used where a pupil is behaving in a way that compromises good order and discipline eg where a pupil persistently refuses to leave the classroom or when a pupil is behaving in a way which seriously disrupts a lesson.
5. Before intervening physically the member of staff should communicate verbally and warn the pupil of the consequences if they continue to misbehave.
6. The member of staff should remain calm throughout.
7. The member of staff should seek assistance if necessary from another member of staff.
8. Interventions may include: holding, blocking pupil's path, leading by hand or arm, shepherding by placing a hand on the centre of the back or in extreme circumstances using a more restrictive hold.
9. Physical contact must end immediately where any pupil expresses concern or obvious unhappiness (the exception to this statement would be to avert possible injury or damage).
10. The Headteacher or Deputy should be informed as soon as possible and will take responsibility for making arrangements for debriefing once the situation has been

stabilised. Any victims of the incident should be offered/given support and their parent/carers informed.

11. If the behaviour is part of an ongoing pattern it may be necessary to address the situation through the development of a Behavioural /Pastoral Support Plan/ IEP.
12. All incidents involving physical restraint must be recorded on the relevant report (see Appendix 1) and returned to the Headteacher as soon as possible.
13. If we become aware that a pupil is likely to behave in a disruptive way that may require the use of reasonable force we will plan our responses through the creation of individual risk assessment.
14. This policy must be read in conjunction with the Behaviour Policy.

Appendix 1



St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School

RECORD OF PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

THIS FORM SHOULD BE COMPLETED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE INCIDENT

Name of pupil:		Date of birth:	
Address & postcode:			
Date of incident:		Time of incident:	
Location of incident:		Lesson/Activity:	
Name of member of staff who physically intervened:			
Name of any witnesses:			

RECORD OF INCIDENT

REASON WHY PHYSICAL INTERVENTION USING FORCE THOUGHT NECESSARY	
Was the child concerned liable to injury:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Were other children liable to injury:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Were staff liable to injury:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Was significant damage to property about to occur?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Was good order seriously prejudiced?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Other reasons (please state):			
ACTION TAKEN FOLLOWING INCIDENT			
Action taken concerning injuries:			
Details of contact with parents/guardian:			
Support offered to staff:			
Other professionals informed?: (If yes, please provide the following information – name, designation, date informed)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Report written by:			
Signed:		Dated:	

HEADTEACHER'S FOLLOW UP ACTIONS(SUBSEQUENT INQUIRY OR COMPLAINT):			
Signed Headteacher:		Dated	