

KILDWICK CE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Striving for Excellence and Promoting Christian Values

Physical Intervention Policy

Date Approved: March 2017	Next Review: September 2017
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It is rare for physical intervention to be necessary in this school environment since the established discipline procedures are usually followed. However, it is important that staff understand the circumstances when such intervention may be necessary and would be considered appropriate.

It is the school's expectation that physical intervention should:

- only be used as a last resort, in clear and unusual circumstances.
- only be used in the best interests of the pupil and the others around him/her.
- only be used if all other preventative measures have been explored
- be reasonable, proportionate and necessary.

If physical intervention does occur it will be as part of an unforeseen or emergency situation. It is acknowledged that staff may find themselves in a situation where there is no other option than the use of 'reasonable force' to keep a young person and themselves safe.

Section 550A of the 1996 Education Act states:

"A member of staff of a school may use, in relation to any pupil at the school, such force as is reasonable in the circumstances for the purpose of preventing the pupil from doing (or continuing to do) any of the following, namely:

a) committing an offence

b) causing personal injury, or damage to the property, of any person (including the pupil himself/herself)

c) engaging in any behaviour prejudicial to the maintenance of good order and discipline at the school or among any of its pupils, whether that behaviour occurs during a teaching session or otherwise"

A member of staff means any teacher who works at the school and any other person who, with the authority of the Headteacher has lawful charge of young people at the school.

The law has been clarified concerning the powers of teachers to use force in exceptional circumstances.

The DfEE LEA/0264/2003 provides guidance on the use of restrictive physical interventions.

If an incident of restrictive physical contact does occur it should be documented in writing and reported to the Headteacher as soon as possible. A serious incident form should be completed by the Headteacher. This document is kept confidentially in the Headteacher's office. The report should include:

- The young person(s) involved, including witness names
- The where and when it happened
- The reasons why reasonable force was necessary
- The context of the incident

The Headteacher may decide that further investigation of the occurrence is required. Any parental complaint arising from such intervention would be investigated under the normal complaints procedure.

Training

Staff training is held every 3 years for all staff members and an attendance record is kept.