

Beaconfields Primary School Policy Restraint & Physical Intervention Policy



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1. Introduction

Burleyfields Primary School recognises the right of every person to be protected from harm. The school seeks to protect all children against unnecessary, inappropriate, excessive, or unlawful physical intervention. Staff are supported in maintaining good order and discipline while minimizing risks of false accusations and ensuring confidence in handling difficult situations. Parents and carers are involved in the behavioural management of their children, and serious incidents are reported and recorded.

2. Purpose of Policy

The policy aims to ensure good relationships between staff and pupils, promoting safety and well-being. In exceptional circumstances, reasonable force may be required to prevent harm or maintain order. Staff are trained to understand their responsibilities and use physical intervention only as a last resort.

3. Definitions

- **Physical Contact:** Proper physical contact, such as comforting pupils or assisting in physical activities.
- **Physical Intervention:** Minimal force used to guide or lead a pupil away from disruptive actions.
- **Physical Control/Restraint:** Use of reasonable force in situations of immediate risk to pupils, staff, or property.

4. Underpinning Values

Everyone at Burleyfields Primary School has the right to:

- Recognition of their unique identity.
- Respect and dignity.
- A safe learning and working environment.
- Protection from harm, violence, and abuse.

Pupils and parents have the right to:

- Individual consideration of needs.
- Information about school rules, policies, and expected conduct.
- Access to the school's complaints procedure.

5. Authorised Staff

- Teachers and LSAs are authorised to use physical contact as defined in this policy.
- Only trained staff (via Team Teach) may use reasonable force.
- The Headteacher maintains a list of authorised staff and ensures training is provided.
- Volunteers, parents, and supply staff are not authorised unless trained and familiar with the policy.

6. Staff from the Authority Working Within the School

Staff from external services must adhere to Burleyfields Primary School's policy while on school premises.

7. Training

Training for authorized staff is provided and managed by the Headteacher. No staff member will be expected to use reasonable force without appropriate training. Training is part of staff induction and ongoing development.

8. Strategies for Dealing with Challenging Behaviour

Staff use positive strategies to encourage acceptable behavior and resolve conflicts without harm. Approaches include verbal warnings, de-escalation techniques, and physical intervention as a last resort.

9. Escalating Situations

Reasonable force may be used to prevent:

- Self-injury or injury to others.
- Serious damage to property.
- Criminal offenses.
- Behaviour compromising good order and discipline.

10. Types of Incidents

Physical intervention may be necessary in situations such as:

- Self-defence or imminent risk of injury.
- Developing risk of injury or property damage.
- Persistent refusal to follow instructions or disruptive behaviour.

11. Acceptable Measures of Physical Intervention

Physical intervention must:

- Be warranted by the circumstances.
- Use the minimum force necessary.
- Consider the pupil's age, understanding, and gender.
- Be likely to achieve the desired result.

Examples include blocking a pupil's path, escorting, or using recognised Team Teach techniques in extreme cases.

12. Recording

All incidents involving physical intervention must be recorded using Form RF1, including:

- Details of the incident.
- Actions taken.
- Witnesses.
- Outcomes, injuries, or property damage.

Reports are shared with parents/carers and stored securely.

13. Action After an Incident

The Headteacher will review and investigate incidents. Further actions may include:

- Child Protection Procedures.
- Staff or pupil disciplinary procedures.
- Exclusions or behaviour policy measures.

Staff involved will be kept informed and supported.

14. Complaints

Complaints about staff will be handled under the school's Complaints Procedure. The Chair of Governors will be informed, but other governors will not be involved unless necessary.

15. Monitoring of Incidents

All incidents involving reasonable force will be documented and monitored to ensure correct procedures are followed. Patterns and trends will be evaluated to address pupil needs and improve practices.

Burleyfields Primary School Physical Control Report

Seen by Head: _____ **Date:** _____

Section A

Name of Child: _____ **Class:** _____

Date: _____ **Year Group:** _____

Place: _____ **Time:** _____

Names of Staff Involved: _____

Names of Witnesses: _____

Reason for Intervention

(Please tick all that apply)

- | Reason | Tick |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Immediate danger of personal injury to self | |
| Immediate danger of injury to another person | |
| Disruption to other pupils | |
| Fighting | |
| Assault | |
| Verbal threats | |
| Accidental | |
| To avoid damage to property | |
| To prevent/interrupt absconding | |
| Off-site | |
| Within grounds | |

Describe the Lead-Up to the Incident/Behaviour :

De-escalation Techniques Used

(Please tick all that apply)

Technique	Tick
Verbal advice and support	
Humour	
Distraction	
Reassurance	
Options offered	
Step away	
Calm talking	
Time out offered	
Time out directed	
Non-threatening body language	
Other (please specify): _____	

Details of the Incident

(Please tick all that apply)

Action Taken	Tick
Remained in class	
Time out	
Returned to class	

Section B

(To be filled in if physical controls were used)

Forms of Physical Control Used : (Please tick all that apply)

Form of Physical Control	Tick
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Held by 2 or more

Friendly hold

Figure of four hold

Holding only

Single elbow

Wrap – for smaller child

Guided escort

Double elbow

Shield

Taken to floor – sitting/kneeling/prone

Inside double elbow

Approximate Duration of Physical Control: _____

Medical Intervention (Where Appropriate)

Injury Suffered by Child Tick

Yes

No

Child Checked By: _____

Treatment Required Tick

Yes

No

Specify Treatment:

Referred to First Aider: Yes No

Referred to G.P. : Yes No

Hospital: Yes No

Parent/Carer Informed By: Phone Letter In person

Injury Suffered by Staff: Yes No

Damage to Property: Yes No

Specify Details:

Action Taken

(Please tick all that apply)

Action

Tick

Follow-up talk

Recommend part-time

Review meeting

Complete work missed

Referred to Police

Exclusion

Returned to class

Letter to Parent/Carer

Other sanction (please specify): _____

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

This report is to be completed immediately following the incident and signed by all staff involved and the Headteacher. Copies will be placed in the pupil's file and the school's general file on the use of reasonable force. Parents/carers will be informed, and the incident will be discussed with them.