



## **HOOK INFANT SCHOOL RESTRAINT POLICY**

### **Common law and statutory law power**

Any citizen has the common law power to intervene in an emergency to use reasonable force in self-defence, to prevent another person from being injured or to stop a criminal offence taking place.

All school staff who have control or charge of pupils also have statutory power, in addition to common law power. Section 93 of the Education and Inspections Act (2006) enables school staff to use such force as is reasonable and proportionate.

At Hook Infant School, restraint can occur if a member of staff needs to use physical force to restrict a child's movement against his or her will to prevent a pupil from doing or continuing to do any of the following:

- committing an offence (or, for a pupil under the age of criminal responsibility, what would be an offence for an older pupil)
- causing personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil himself)
- 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.

### **Who can use restrictive physical intervention**

All staff can use restrictive physical intervention to maintain safety in an emergency consistent with the principles of common law as detailed above. All teachers and any other person, who by virtue of their contract, has control or charge of pupils are authorised to use reasonable force under all the conditions above with regard to pupils attending that school (including those attending on a temporary basis).

The Headteacher may also designate specific staff to respond to such incidents as and when required. The school has trained staff who have received Positive Behaviour Training at Level One, by TeamTeach. This enables safe and effective physical intervention strategies as a last resort. Consideration must be made to ascertain if the action is reasonable and proportionate to what is trying to be prevented.

Staff will only use restraint to remove a child to a place of safety, where they can be allowed to calm and eventually return to the planned lesson. Safety is always a paramount concern and as such staff are not required or advised to use restrictive physical intervention if it is likely to put their own safety or the safety of others at risk.



The school uses a 'Red Card' strategy to notify other members of staff to an incident where help is required to manage difficult behaviour. If a member of staff does not have another adult on hand they should ask a child to go to the nearest adult with the 'Red Card' to summon additional support.

There is no current Government approved technique for restraining pupils in Hampshire, outside of special schools. As a result, we will follow the Hampshire County Council "Restrictive physical intervention in schools - July 2012, updated August 2016" policy.

In the event of using restrictive physical intervention, staff should avoid holding the hand, arm and leg joints, to reduce the risk of injuries.

### **Recording physical restraint**

All physical restraint must be recorded on a "Physical Intervention Record Form" within 24 hours of the intervention and referenced in the Physical Intervention Index, both of which are kept in the "VIR and PI Reporting" file kept in the Rainbow Room. The child's parents must be informed immediately. Staff may also need to complete a "Violent Incident Report" (VIR) form if violent behaviour has been used against staff or property.

Reviewed and revised: July 2022

Approved by the Governing Body, Hook Infant School

Signed: *Alison Collier*  
Chairman of Governing Body

Date: July 2022.

Date for Review: July 2026

This policy should be read alongside:

Behaviour Policy

SEND

Equal Opportunities

"Restrictive physical intervention in schools" Hampshire County Council