



## **PRE-PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT**

### **Physical Intervention Policy**

*School Mission Statement:*

**“Learning and growing in  
the light of the gospel”**

#### **WITHIN THE POLICY:**

- Definitions
- Principles for the Use of Restrictive Physical Interventions
- When can Restrictive Physical Intervention be used?
- Who can use Restrictive Physical Intervention?
- What type of Restricted Physical Intervention can and cannot be used?
- Planning
- Recording and Reporting
- Monitoring
- Complaints
- Links to other policies
- Review

## PHYSICAL INTERVENTION POLICY

### The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage states:

<b>Children's behaviour is managed effectively and in a manner appropriate for their stage of development and particular individual needs</b>
---

Specific requirements
-----------------------

Providers must not use, or threaten to use, physical / corporal punishments (1,2) or any form of punishment which could have an adverse impact on the child's well-being Providers must have an effective behaviour management policy which is adhered to by all members of staff.
--

1 The use of physical or corporal punishment is an offence under regulations made under the Childcare Act 2006 and may lead to prosecution.

2 Physical punishment also includes shaking, which will be considered unacceptable.

All staff within Grace Dieu Manor School Pre Preparatory Department aim to help children take responsibility for their own behaviour. This can be done through a combination of approaches which include:

- positive role modelling
- planning a range of interesting and challenging activities
- setting and enforcing appropriate boundaries and expectations
- providing positive feedback.

However, there are very occasional times when a child's behaviour presents particular challenges that may require physical intervention.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Grace Dieu Manor School Behaviour Policy and Use of Reasonable Force Policy

### DEFINITIONS

There are three main types of physical intervention:

**Positive handling.** The positive use of touch is a normal part of human interaction, it may be appropriate in a range of situations:

- giving guidance to children
- providing emotional support
- physical care (first aid or toileting)

Our staff will exercise appropriate care when using touch.

**Physical intervention.** Physical intervention can include mechanical and environmental means to ensure a child's safety.

**Restrictive physical intervention.** This is when a member of staff uses physical force intentionally to restrict a child's movement against his/her will.

## **PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF RESTRICTIVE PHYSICAL INTERVENTION**

- Restrictive physical intervention will only be used in the context of positive behaviour management approaches.
- Restrictive physical behaviour will only be used in extreme circumstances. We will do all that we can in order to avoid using restrictive physical behaviour. However there are rare situations of such extreme danger that create an immediate need for this type of intervention.
- Restrictive physical behaviour will only be used when our staff believes its use is in the child's best interests and safety, or that of other children.
- All our staff have a duty of care towards the children at Grace Dieu Manor School Pre Preparatory Department. When children are in danger of hurting themselves, others or of causing significant damage to property, we have a responsibility to intervene. If appropriate staff will divert a child or instruct them verbally to "stop." However, if they judge it necessary they will use restrictive physical intervention.
- When physical intervention is used it is used within the principles of reasonable minimal force. The amount of force used will be in proportion to the circumstances.

## **WHEN CAN RESTRICTIVE PHYSICAL INTERVENTION BE USED**

Restrictive physical intervention can be justified when:

- A child is injuring themselves or others, or about to.
- A child is damaging property, or about to.

Duty of care means that our staff might use restrictive physical intervention if a child was trying to leave the Pre Preparatory or School building, and it is judged that the child would be at risk. This duty of care also extends to when we go across to the Main School to the Refectory or to Church or beyond the site boundaries on trips.

The aim in using restrictive physical intervention is to restore safety, both for the child and those around.

## **WHO CAN USE RESTRICTIVE PHYSICAL INTERVENTION**

Where possible a member of staff who knows the child best will be involved in using the restrictive physical intervention as this person is also most likely to be able to use other effective methods to keep this child safe. In an emergency, anyone can use restrictive physical intervention as long as it follows our policy.

If we have a child at Grace Dieu Manor School Pre-Preparatory Department whose behaviour means that there is a probable need to use restrictive physical intervention, the School will work closely with the parents to draw up an appropriate I.E.P.

## **WHAT TYPE OF RESTRICTIVE PHYSICAL INTERVENTION CAN AND CANNOT BE USED**

### **CAN**

- Aim for side by side contact with the child
- Aim for no gap between the adult's and child's body
- Beware of head positioning of the child to avoid head butts
- Hold children by "long" bones avoid joints
- Ensure there is no restriction in the child's ability to breathe
- Avoid lifting children

### **PLANNING**

In an emergency our staff will do their best within their duty of care and use minimal force. After an emergency we will review what happened and evaluate how we responded.

### **RECORDING AND REPORTING**

Any use of physical intervention will be recorded and this completed within 24 hours of the incident. Parents / guardians of the child will be notified of an incident by phone and invited in for a meeting on the same day. A letter outlining the event and the outcome will follow the face-to face meeting. A written copy of the incident will be sent to the Headmistress of the School for the central file.

### **MONITORING**

Monitoring the use of restrictive physical intervention will help identify trends and therefore help develop our ability to meet the needs of the children without using restrictive physical intervention.

This policy will be reviewed annually. Those involved will be:

The Head of the Pre Preparatory Department  
The Headmistress

### **COMPLAINTS**

Any parent concerns should be dealt with through the usual channels or the Grace Dieu Manor School complaints procedure.

#### **Links to other policies**

Use of Reasonable Force Policy

#### **Review**

This policy was last reviewed by the Head of Preparatory School and Head of Nursery, August 2017.

**Review Date: September 2018**