



# Physical Intervention Policy

“Everyone who works with children should do what is in the best interests of the child.”

Article 3 United Nations Rights of the Child

## Rationale

It is extremely rare for restraint to be used at Trinity School but very occasionally situations arise when it proves necessary for an adult in the school to restrain a pupil. This policy describes the school's approach to the use of restraint. It is informed by Physical Intervention Policy issued by the Education Department. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Behaviour Policy.

## Who is authorised to use restraint?

Only staff members who have received up-to-date restraint training Maybo 2 are authorised to use restraint but it is expected that this right will be exercised sparingly and only under the circumstances described in the department policy. All staff at Trinity have Maybo 1 training.

## When is it appropriate to use restraint?

It is only appropriate to use restraint in certain circumstances and only if all other strategies have not worked (however, it is important to note that often decisions to use restraint have to be made very quickly and under pressure and so all other strategies may not have been used on every occasion). Examples of situations where it may be appropriate to use restraint are:

To prevent a pupil from doing or continuing to do any of the following:

- Committing an offence.
- Causing injury, or damage, to a person or the property of any person (including the person themselves).
- Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline in the school or among pupils receiving education in the school, whether during lessons or elsewhere.

The most usual circumstances where reasonable force might be used is when a pupil's behaviour is likely to cause personal injury or serious damage to property. Members of staff should be very cautious about the use of force in other circumstances and should remember that force should only be used as a last resort and in line with the legal considerations and principles outlined in the Education Policy. .

The RPI policy is part of a wider behaviour policy which outlines a pro-active approach to promoting positive behaviour.

The school's Behaviour Policy outlines the approaches and procedures which minimises the likelihood of needing to use RPI.

If RPI is used as a part of a planned response for a pupil, the plan is informed by a risk assessment which is carried out using the recommended format.

The plan to use RPI is recorded in a Positive Handling Plan (see Education Policy)

The School must records any incidents of RPI using the recommended format. This form is forwarded to the Head of the Social, Emotional and Mental Health Inclusion Team (SEMHIT).

School notifies parents of any incident involving physical intervention.

Trinity School staff all hold MAYBO 1 and some staff hold Maybo 2 accreditation.

MAYBO 1 is updated every 2 years and MAYBO 2 is in response to the needs of a pupil.

The head teacher holds a log of all incidents of Physical Intervention.

For more information please see

<https://www.gov.ie/SiteCollectionDocuments/Education/P%20Positive%20Behaviour%20Support%20and%20Restrictive%20PI%20Policy%2020171031%20JR.pdf>

See Touch Policy introduced January 2020

See Absconding Policy

K. McMahon

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Updated by CG January 2019

KM and CG February 2020

KM Feb 2021 / March 2022

Claire Flett January 2023