



# ST FRANCIS SCHOOL

## PHYSICAL RESTRAINT POLICY (B7)

### 1. General

- 1.1 Like all schools, we reserve the right for our staff to use reasonable force to control or restrain a pupil in specific circumstances.
- 1.2 The Education and Inspections Act 2006 enables school staff to use "such force as is reasonable in the circumstances to prevent a pupil from doing or continuing to do" any of the following:
- Committing any offence (or, for a pupil under the age of criminal responsibility, what would be an offence for an older pupil);
  - Causing personal injury to any person (including the pupil themselves);
  - Causing damage to the property of any person (including the pupil themselves);
  - Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the school, and among any pupils receiving education at the school, whether during a teaching session or otherwise.
- 1.3 The Act also defines to whom the power applies as follows:
- Any teacher who works at the school;
  - Any other person whom the head teacher has authorised to have control or charge of pupils.

### 2. Training

All of our staff are trained in the circumstances in which reasonable minimum force may be used, both as part of their induction and regular refresher training on managing pupil behaviour. In particular, they are advised always to use their voices first, to use the minimum force necessary to restrain a child for the shortest possible period of time. Their training specifically deals with the factors that must be considered in reaching a judgement as to whether the use of physical restraint is appropriate that are set out in the DfE's 'Use of Reasonable Force' document, a link of which is to be found in point 4 below.

### 3. Recording Physical Restraint and Informing Parents

Every member of staff will inform the Headmaster immediately after he/she has needed to restrain a pupil physically. We will always inform a parent when it has been necessary to use physical restraint, and invite them to the school, so that we can, if necessary, agree on a protocol for managing that individual pupil's behaviour. A log of use of physical restraint will be kept.

### 4. [Link to DfE's 'Use of Reasonable Force' \(July 2013\). Reviewed in 2015.](#)

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