

USE OF REASONABLE FORCE (RESTRAINT) POLICY

1. This document should be read in conjunction with the Department for Education document [‘Use of Reasonable Force – advice for headteachers, staff & governing bodies’](#) and the ‘Use of Reasonable Force (Restraint) Procedure’ (from paragraph 14 below).

The Policy

2. The Use of Reasonable Force (Restraint) Policy and procedure will form part of the school’s behaviour policy, which will be reviewed by the Governing Body every 3 years, or sooner if circumstances dictate.
3. All schools and their employees have the right to use reasonable force in order to protect or control students.
4. Use of reasonable force/restraint should only be used as a last resort in trying to manage the behaviour of any student. It should only be used where:
 - a. There is a risk that a student may harm themselves, other students, members of staff and property.
 - b. The behaviour of a student is detrimental to the behaviour and learning of others; disrupts good order in the classroom or on a school trip, event or other activity.
5. Use of force is not to be used as a punishment.
6. There is no requirement, expectation or obligation for any member of staff to restrain any student.
7. Where force or restraint is used by a member of staff, the ‘Use of Reasonable Force (Restraint) Procedure’ (from paragraph 14 below), will be followed by the member of staff involved.
8. Where incidents involving restraint or use of force occur, they will be recorded and monitored by the Headteacher and the Governors’ Student Welfare Committee.
9. A restorative reintegration meeting will take place involving the relevant member of staff and student before the student returns to lessons. This meeting will include a senior member of staff as a mediator.
10. The definition of what is reasonable force, who can use it and when, will be those outlined in Department for Education document [‘Use of Reasonable Force – advice for headteachers, staff & governing bodies’](#).
11. Where there is a complaint made by a parent, student or other adult against a member of staff who has used either force or restraint, the agreed procedure will be followed by the Headteacher
12. The ‘Use of Reasonable Force (Restraint) Policy’ & ‘Use of Reasonable Force (Restraint) Procedure’, will be shared with all staff, parents & students via the school website.

13. All members of staff will make themselves aware of this policy and its associated documents.

Procedure

14. Where 'force' has been used involving a student the following procedure should be followed by the member of staff involved:

- a. Inform relevant Line Manager of incident, who in turn will inform the Headteacher.
- b. Line Manager to oversee students involved and organise completion of Incident Report Form
- c. Teacher involved to complete Incident Report Form and pass to Line Manager who will pass all paper work on to the Headteacher
- d. The Headteacher will inform parents of incident and inform them that the matter will be investigated. (Parents to be informed within 24 hours and the incident to be logged by the Headteacher's PA)
- e. Where it is adjudged unsafe for a student to have parents informed, the LA is to be informed.
- f. The Headteacher will consider written reports and whether to interview both parties if appropriate.
- g. Outcome of investigation to be communicated by the Headteacher to member of staff, student and parents
- h. Where a member of staff has behaved inappropriately, the school's disciplinary procedure will be followed.
- i. Where student has behaved inappropriately, the relevant Director of Learning to take action in consultation with either the Headteacher and or the Key Stage Coordinator.