



Meadowhead Community Infant School and Nursery

RESTRAINT POLICY

Our School Values are: Kindness, Friendship, Respect, Teamwork, Ambition

We aim to ensure:

- Each child is respected as an individual
- High expectations so every child achieved their full potential
- All children develop a positive attitude towards education
- A nurturing environment providing 'moments of joy'
- Children embed our school values of ambition, friendship, kindness, respect and teamwork
- We work closely with families.

When can physical force be used?

The use of physical force by teachers and others authorised by the Headteacher to control or restrain pupils is sanctioned by section 93 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. Teachers can use 'reasonable force' to:

- Remove disruptive children from the classroom where they have refused to follow an instruction to do so
- Prevent a pupil behaving in a way that disrupts a school event or a school trip or visit
- Prevent a pupil leaving the classroom where allowing the pupil to leave would risk their safety or lead to behaviour that disrupts the behaviour of others
- Prevent a pupil from attacking a member of staff or another pupil, or to stop a fight in the playground
- Restrain a pupil at risk of harming themselves through physical outbursts

Schools cannot and will not

- Use force as a punishment – it is always unlawful to use force as a punishment

Before intervening physically, a teacher/teaching assistant should tell the pupil who is misbehaving to stop, and the consequence of what will happen if he/she does not stop. The teacher/teaching assistant should continue attempting to communicate with the pupil throughout the incident, and should make it clear that physical contact or restraint will stop as soon as it ceases to be necessary. A calm and measured approach to the situation is needed and a teacher/teaching assistant should never give the impression that they have lost their temper, or are acting out of anger or frustration to punish the pupil.

It is advisable for a teacher/teaching assistant to summon help from another adult and the pupil should be informed that help has been sought.

Physical intervention can take several forms. It might involve:

- Physical interposing between pupils
- Blocking a pupil's path
- Holding
- Leading a pupil by the hand or arm
- Shepherding a pupil away by placing a hand in the centre of the back.
- Any other forms of restraint are not acceptable, particularly if they may cause injury to the child. Staff should always avoid holding or touching the pupil in a way that might be considered indecent.

In the event of a serious incident the teacher/teaching assistant must provide a written record for the Headteacher and it should be recorded on CPOMs. Details must include:

- The name(s) of the pupil(s) and where the incident took place
- The names of any other staff or pupils that witnessed the incident
- The reason that force was necessary – for example, to prevent injury to the pupil, another pupil or member of staff
- How the incident began and progressed, including details of the pupil's behaviour, what was said by each of the parties, the steps taken to defused or calm the situation, the degree of force used, how it was applied and for how long
- The pupil response and the outcome of the incident
- Details of any injury suffered by the pupil, another pupil, or a member of staff and of any damages to the property
- The written account should be signed, dated and shared with the Headteacher

The Headteacher will take responsibility for informing the parents verbally or in writing of any serious incident. Minor incidents should be reported by teachers to parents verbally on the day of the incident. If the child is collect by someone different then a phone call should be made to inform the parents.

Provision for Professional Development/Inset/Support for Staff

Provision for training on this policy for all teaching and non-teaching staff will be through:

- INSET
- Induction of new staff (teaching and non-teaching)
- Inclusion in the Staff Handbook

Pastoral support will be available for school staff accused of misconduct, drawing on the advice in the 'Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Against Other Staff' guidance.

The school will not automatically suspend a member of staff who has been accused of misconduct, pending an investigation.

Review

The policy will be reviewed through and by consultation with staff, the Headteacher and governors.

Any amendments to the policy arising from the review procedure will go to consultation with staff and governors for approval and ratification.


This policy complies with section 89 of the Education and Inspections Act (2006) and the statutory guidance Behaviour and Discipline in Schools (advice for Headteachers

and school staff – 2016)

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/40/section/89>

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/488034/Behaviour_and_Discipline_in_Schools -](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/488034/Behaviour_and_Discipline_in_Schools_-_A_guide_for_headteachers_and_School_Staff.pdf)

[A guide for headteachers and School Staff.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/488034/Behaviour_and_Discipline_in_Schools_-_A_guide_for_headteachers_and_School_Staff.pdf)

Adopted/Ratified:	January 2024
Review Frequency:	1 Year
Review Date	January 2025
Signed (Chair of Governors)	
Signed (Headteacher)	