



NAG 5 - Policy

Managing Challenging Behaviour and Physical Restraint

Rationale

To minimise the effect of challenging behaviour, the Board of Trustees shall ensure that effective procedures are in place around the management of student behaviour and the use of physical restraint.

Purpose

This policy applies throughout the school. All staff are required to familiarise themselves with the Ministry of Education guidelines for registered schools in New Zealand on the use of physical restraint and to undertake appropriate professional development.

The Board of Trustees will ensure that any incident of physical restraint is notified to parents, caregivers and whānau on the same day and reported to the Ministry of Education. The Board of Trustees will ensure that parents, caregivers and whānau are notified if physical restraint is an element in a student's individual behaviour plan.

Complainants with concerns regarding the use of physical restraint must follow the school's prescribed concerns and complaints procedure.

Delegations

The Board of Trustees delegates to the principal:

- responsibility for ensuring that adequate staff training and support is in place.
- the reporting of incidents of physical restraint to parents, caregivers, whānau and the Ministry of Education.
- notification to parents, caregivers and whānau if an element of physical restraint is in a student's individual behaviour plan.

Guidelines

- Physical restraint is defined as using "physical force to prevent, restrict or subdue the movement of a student's body or part of the student's body against the student's will" and is a serious intervention. This does not include physical contact for guiding, comforting or communicating with a student, that the student does not resist.
- Staff shall be well versed in prevention and de-escalation strategies used to limit the need to physically restrain a student and to prevent dangerous situations.
- Physical restraint must be used only when necessary to prevent imminent harm and the person using restraint reasonably believes there is no other option in the circumstances to prevent the harm.
- Authorised staff are employees authorised by their employer (the Board of Trustees) to use physical restraint.
- Teachers and staff members who are authorised to physically restrain students shall receive suitable training and support.



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- If physical restraint is used, those involved will complete the Ministry of Education's 'Incident of Physical Restraint Form' and give this to the principal.
- Every staff member who uses physical restraint must complete a staff physical restraint incident report. The employer must place a copy of the form in the student's file and provide a copy to the student's teacher/s, parents and/or caregivers.
- Seclusion of students is prohibited. Seclusion of students is defined as placing a child or student in a room involuntarily, alone and from which they cannot (or believe they cannot) freely exit.

Associated Legislation

- Education Act 1989
- Education (Physical Restraint) Rules 2017
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

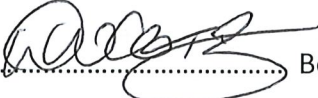
Associated Procedures

- Behaviour Management Policy - PB4L and Restorative Practice
- Appendix 1 - Education (Physical Restraint) Rules 2017
- Appendix 2 - Ministry of Education's 'Incident of Physical Restraint Form'
- Appendix 3 - Authorised Staff who can physically restraint a child at Kamo Primary School
- Appendix 4 - Guidelines for Registered Schools in New Zealand on the use of Physical Restraint (August 2017)

Monitoring

- Instances, matters or risks in relation to this policy shall form part of the principal's report to every Board meeting if necessary, taking care that individual students cannot be identified.
- The Board of Trustees shall monitor the use of physical restraint, looking for trends and any action that could be taken at governance level to support reducing such incidents.
- The school will use eTap to record all behaviours. This is a system that notifies all key Senior Leadership personnel.

Signed:  Principal

Signed:  BoT Chairperson

Reviewed: Term 1, 2022

Review date: Term 1, 2025