



# Physical Intervention Policy



UNCRC Article 19: I have the right to be protected from being hurt or badly treated

Updated May 2022

## **What is the purpose of this policy?**

It is extremely rare for physical intervention to be used at St Saviour's School but very occasionally situations arise when it proves necessary for an adult in the school to physically intervene with a pupil. This policy describes the school's approach to the use of physical intervention. It is informed by the non-statutory guidance issued by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (UK). As well as being in keeping with DfEE Circular 10/98; teachers and other persons who are authorised by headteachers to have control or charge of pupils, may use 'reasonable force' to prevent pupils from:

- Committing a criminal offence, whether or not the pupil concerned has reached the age of criminal responsibility;
- Injuring themselves or others;
- Causing damage to property, including their own property; and
- Engaging in any behaviour which has a negative impact on maintaining good order and discipline at the school or on other pupils, whether that behaviour occurs in the classroom during a teaching session or elsewhere

## **Principles**

We believe that:

- Physical intervention is a last resort and should only be used when other methods have been exhausted or judged unlikely to succeed
- Physical intervention should only be used to prevent a pupil from harming him/herself or others, or from seriously damaging property
- Physical intervention should involve minimum reasonable force and should seek to avoid injury. The degree and duration of any force applied must be proportional to the circumstances.
- The rights and dignity of pupil and staff must be acknowledged
- Staff must avoid ways of holding pupils that could be construed as abusive

## **Who is authorised to use physical intervention?**

Only staff members who have received up-to-date MAYBO level 2 training are authorised to use physical intervention, unless in the event of immediate danger to themselves or others, it is expected that this right will be exercised sparingly and only under the circumstances described in this policy.

## **When is it appropriate to use physical intervention?**

It is only appropriate to use physical intervention in certain circumstances and only if all other strategies have not worked (however, it is important to note that often decisions to use physical intervention 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 physical intervention are:

- A pupil attacks another pupil or member of staff;
- Pupils are fighting and causing risk of injury to themselves or others;
- A pupil is committing or on the verge of committing damage to property;

## **How do we avoid the use of physical intervention?**

We work hard to have high standards of behaviour in the school. If expectations of pupils behaviour are high then there are fewer problems. All staff have received MAYBO training to support them with de-escalation techniques. A few pupils are more prone to dysregulation and it is

the responsibility of every member of staff to closely monitor those pupils and to attempt to make interventions suitable for each individual pupil before a situation escalates. These pupils will have a Consistent Management Plan (CMP) and if supported through advice from SEMHIT, will also have a Safer Handling Plan and an associated risk assessment.

## **Procedures**

- Staff are not allowed to physically intervene out of anger or frustration, or with the intention to injure or to punish.
- The onus is on staff to determine the degree of physical intervention appropriate (see 'Guidelines on Acceptable Practice' attached to this policy) and when it should be used. In particular, staff must be careful not to overreact.
- Staff should not attempt to physically intervene with a pupil if they are likely to put themselves at risk
- A pupil should be sent to fetch a second adult to observe or support the physical intervention
- A record of any incident where physical intervention has been used must be given to the Headteacher and should include - the time - the nature of the physical intervention - details of any injuries - the names of pupils and staff present (and statements from them if appropriate) - the staff involved in the physical intervention - the outcomes
- The parents of a pupil will be informed promptly and given the opportunity to discuss the incident.
- If a pupil needs physical intervention with on more than one occasion in any period of one month, strategies to manage the behaviour, including physical intervention, must be added to the pupil's evidence file and they will need a Consistent Management Plan.
- Staff are encouraged to support colleagues who have been involved in a physical intervention situation.
- The use of physical intervention will be emotionally stressful for pupil and staff, who should seek and accept support after an incident. In the short term, this might include time out of class.
- Where a member of staff has acted in a professional, considered and informed manner, and/or, where the actions are considered to be a reasonable response to a situation, CYPES will support the member of staff in any resulting proceedings.

## **How are incidents of physical intervention recorded?**

Whenever it is necessary to use physical intervention on a pupil the incident must be recorded on the school form (Appendix 1). It is important that parents are informed of the need to use physical intervention on their pupil on the same day.

Pupils supported through SEMHIT advice, an amended form will be completed and sent into the SEMHIT team.

## **To be read in conjunction with:**

Behaviour Policy

Author	HT and DHT
First Written	May 2016
Review 1	May 2018
Review 2	May 2020
Review 3	May 2022
To be next reviewed	May 2024

To be reviewed and updated by May 2024



**Report of an incident of Physical Intervention (PI)**

This form is for recording **Physical Interventions** please give to HT, DHT or SENCO after completion.

<b>Student Name:</b>		<b>D.O.B:</b>	
<b>School: St Saviour's School</b>		<b>Is the pupil a looked after child? Yes/No</b>	
Does the pupil have a Safer Handling Plan?	Yes/No	If yes - Date it began: If no – Date Safer Handling Plan to be introduced:	
List the staff that are trained in Maybo, Safer Handling - <b>Children</b> PI and are listed on the Safer Handling Plan, if applicable:			
Justification for Physical Intervention: Education (Jersey) Law 2017 1. <b>Committing an offence</b> 2. <b>Causing injury, or damage, to a person or the property of any person. (including the person themselves)</b> 3. <b>Prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline in the school or among pupils receiving education in the school, weather during lessons or elsewhere.</b> (Maybo SEAL test – response was Safe, Effective, Appropriate and Lawful) Plus necessary, reasonable and proportionate.		Types of Physical Interventions 1. <b>(Escorting) Handling – restrictive</b> (Hook and interrupter escort, Reverse hook and interrupter escort, Support to floor, 2. <b>(Holding) Handling – restrictive</b> (Kneeling hook and cradle containment, Containment with hooks, Seated hook and cradle, <b>(Seated and kneeling) Handling – restrictive</b> (Seated hook and cradle, Seated wrap,) 3. Other – record the physical intervention used	

<b>The Incident</b>					
Date/Time of Restrictive Physical Intervention	Duration Start finish/time	Description of behaviour	Justification for Physical Intervention (See above grid)	Types of PI used (See above grid) Was the PI used as part of a Planned Intervention? If yes, please attach Safer Handling Plan.	Staff Involved with RPI. (Physically or as an observer) Pupil witnesses
<b>Review of Incident of Physical Intervention (RPI)</b>					
<b>Post-incident student and staff supports</b>					
<b>Did pupil or staff require first aid or admission to hospital?</b> Where individuals monitored during and after the event? Please describe any injuries sustained.	<b>How the pupil and staff were supported after the incident?</b> How the pupil was supervised and supported after the incident of RPI? How were staff supervised and debriefed, appropriate to the individual's needs?	<b>How the pupil/staff conflict was resolved and if appropriate were restorative processes used?</b> How the feelings of those were involved heard?	<b>What training needs have arisen as a result of the incident?</b> What organisation changes could be made to reduce the chance of RPI occurring again?		
<b>Review of incident</b>					
<b>Antecedents or build up leading to the need for PI.</b> What triggered the behaviour? ( <i>Maybo POPS - Person, Object, Place, Situation</i> )	<b>What de-escalating techniques were used prior to the PI?</b> ( <i>Maybo Open Palms – position, attitude, look and listen, make space, stance.</i> <i>(Maybo Safer Model – Step back, assess, find help, evaluate options and respond)</i> )	<b>What was successful about the management of the incident and the staff responses?</b> ( <i>Maybo SEAL test – response was Safe, Effective, Appropriate and Lawful</i> )	<b>What could change to reduce the chances of PI from being used again?</b> ( <i>Maybo Risk reduction Model - Primary, secondary and tertiary</i> )		