

**The TLC Nursery Federation**  
**Chalvey Nursery School & Slough Centre Nursery School**

**Restraint Policy**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Behaviour & Rewards, Complaints, Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety, Restraint, Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs, & Whistle-blowing policies.

Guidelines on the use of 'reasonable force' to control pupils.

The Education Act 1996 (Circular 10/98) makes it clear that reasonable force can be used to prevent a pupil from:

- Injuring themselves or others
- Causing damage to property, including the pupil's own
- Behaviour prejudicial to maintaining good order & discipline at school or among its pupils in a classroom, during a teaching session or elsewhere (e.g. school trip)

The level & duration of the force used should be the minimum necessary to achieve the desired result, for example, to restore safety.

The guidelines, which took effect from September 1998, state that **'a calm and considered response to the situation is needed. When circumstances justify staff can:**

- Physically block a pupils path
- Hold push and pull
- Lead a pupil by the long bone on the arm.
- Shepherd a pupil away placing a hand in the centre of a pupil's back
- In extreme cases apply the use of a more restrictive hold consistent with the concept of reasonable force.

Situations where reasonable force may be used include:

- When pupils are fighting
- To prevent vandalism
- To prevent injury to self or others, by accident, rough play, tantrums or misuse of dangerous materials
- Running in school in a way likely to cause an accident.

In this school we use positive handling strategies. Only staff trained by 'TEAM-TEACH' are authorised to use this method of physical intervention.

'TEAM-TEACH' is a structured, non-violent, staff development programme that promotes techniques that are effective with anger, aggression management utilising therapeutic, education, awareness & communication strategies. It puts an emphasis on whole teams of people working together to teach and help facilitate change.

**Before using any positive handling strategy the following principles are observed:**

- Staff numbers (minimum of 2 being involved, with the presence of 'critical friends' being valued & appreciated).
- Gradual & graded system of response commensurate with the risk presented. Used after preferred verbal & non-verbal strategies have failed.

- Techniques do not impose pain or apply locks but rely on mechanical effectiveness applied for the minimum force and time with maximum care & control.
- Emphasis on staff using a calm, solid, positive, focused & controlled approach with strategies that encourage verbal & non-verbal communication with the language of help being embedded within our de-escalation culture.
- Personal safety & protection issues addressed for staff, empowering with knowledge & confidence, enabling a stronger presence, with a gentler touch.
- Following a restraint there should be a process of recovery, support & observation for both the staff & pupil.

**All positive & protective handling incidents must be:**

Reported, recorded, monitored & evaluated.

**Recording & reporting should include:**

- Name of persons involved.
- Where it happened.
- Time of incident.
- What happened leading up to the incident.
- What diffusing strategies were used.
- Which positive handling technique was used.
- How long the technique was used for.
- Parents should be informed of any incidents.

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