

GUIDELINE 6.6b – STUDENT BEHAVIOUR SAFETY PLANS – PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

This guideline outlines the process around determining those students requiring a behaviour/safety plan and how these are communicated with staff. Behaviour management plans will exist already for students who have had a behaviour intervention through MOE Learning Support and/or RTLB.

All staff are expected to be aware of the the escalation cycle and familiarise themselves with the plans for any student who requires a behaviour plan.

Identifying new students requiring a behaviour/safety plan

- Any teacher who believes a student may present an issue of safety is to communicate this in writing to the Principal and SENCO.
- Deans/SENCO will also identify students who may require a behaviour plan through
 - Information/reports provided on entry to school
 - Regular monitoring of the referrals for the year group
 - Tuesday form teacher dean meetings
 - Feedback from staff
 - Wednesday SLT Deans meeting
 - RTLB interventions
 - Learning Support interventions

Writing the plan

- The SENCO will work with the Dean, form teacher and class teachers to develop a plan that follows the escalation cycle. RTLB and SE may support depending on the level of behaviours being exhibited. A template will be available for this.
- For Alternative Education Students the AE coordinator will formulate the plan in consultation with class teachers, Dean and the SENCO.
- The plan will communicate what to look for for each student regarding triggers, agitation, acceleration, peak de-escalation and strategies and responses to safely manage the situation for staff and students.
- The plan will clearly communicate if physical; restraint may be used. This would be undertaken by trained teaching staff.

Communicating the plan

- Behaviour/safety plans will be available for each student through KAMAR and attached as a note. These will indicate the stages of the escalation for students with behaviour plans.
- They will be circulated for teachers of the student.
- Relievers are to be made aware of any student with a behaviour/safety plan by the usual class teacher
- Teachers are to leave notes for relieving staff regarding any student who requires particular management especially those with safety plans.
- Teachers are to familiarise themselves with potential triggers for students and the
- They will be displayed on the staff notice board for duty staff

Monitoring the plan

- Class teachers, form teacher, the Dean and SENCO are all responsible for reviewing and monitoring the behaviour/safety plan. The aim is for the student not to get into an escalated state by considering triggers and strategies to de-escalate.
- If an incident occurs
 - Respect the student - I am here to help
 - Be calm, reasonable and flexible
 - Follow the escalation plan for the student
 - Manage the situation as outlined in the plan to keep all parties safe.
 - Preserve the dignity of the student eg do not mock
 - Keep calm
- Immediately following the incident consider physical and emotional harm for students/staff affected and provide the necessary supports.
- At some time after the event a thorough review is required to see what can be learnt by the student and staff to reduce the likelihood of a re-occurrence.

Physical restraint

- Our aim is to avoid any physical restraint of students, especially if staff are untrained. Note: MOE will only train staff if there is an identified student whose behaviour/safety plan includes physical restraint.
- The first course of action is to remove other students or staff from the scene
- Physical restraint can only be used where there is serious and imminent danger of physical injury.
- The restraint used must be reasonable and proportionate to the circumstances.
- Physical restraint can only be carried out by registered teachers in our school.
- Follow MOE guidelines
- Any incident of restraint must be reported as per MOE guidelines for registered schools in New Zealand on the use of physical restraint - February 2023
- See PPTA Guidelines on restraint if it is deemed necessary

Link for the MOE Document

<https://assets.education.govt.nz/public/MOE-Physical-Restraint-Guidelines-FINAL-Web-singles.pdf>

Guideline audited and reviewed by the Self Review committee

Date.....Chairperson.....