Queen Eleanor's Church of England Junior School
An Academy in the Good Shepherd Trust
Queen Eleanor's Road, Onslow Village,
Guildford, GU2 7SD

Date	Review Date	Coordinator	Responsible Body
06/05/2022	September 2023	SENCo	Local Committee

Touch and the use of restrictive physical intervention when working with children and young people

Objectives

Queen Eleanor's C of E Junior School endeavours to ensure that all children are safe and that all aspects of the every child matters agenda are addressed. The main objective of this policy is to ensure all staff, parents and children or young persons are aware of the procedures and practice that will be carried out to ensure that this is the case at the school. This policy links with the schools behaviour policy, anti-bullying policy and special educational needs policy. It is intended to ensure that it will prevent serious breaches of school discipline and prevent injury to individuals or serious damage to property.

In order to minimise the need to use force or restrain child or young person our staff will strive to:-

- create a calm environment that minimises the risk of incidents that might require using force and apply school rules consistently and fairly.
- develop an effective relationship between staff and a child or young person that is central to good order.
- ensure all supervision of children is carried out in a consistent manner so children and staff are comfortable within the setting.
- use relevant materials for approaches to teach children or young persons how to manage conflict and strong feelings.
- ensure all staff have appropriate instructions and training to enable them to be effective in their various roles in and out of the classroom.
- ensure that handling plans and individual risk assessment will be put in place and training given to ensure staff are equipped to deal with individual children or young persons who have been identified.
- Whenever possible, warn a child that force may have to be used before using it.

Responsibilities

It is the Headteacher's duty to ensure all staff are aware of their statutory powers to use force and or restrain a child or young person. As part of the induction process into school the head teacher will inform staff if they have the powers to restrain, and who they can turn to if they are in a situation with a child or young person that may be causing concern.

The school has a member of staff who is a Trained Instructor in CPI Safety Interventions Skills (Previously known as Management of Actual and Potential Aggression or MAPA) skills. This member of staff is authorised to train other members of staff in CPI Safety Interventions Skills. This staff member is currently on Maternity Leave from May 2022. 4 members of staff have been received 'Positive Touch' training in March 2022.
The Headteacher will inform the governors through the head's report those people that have been authorised to use force or restrain a child or young person in school. All staff at school may have the statutory powers to use

force to restrain a child or young person or remove them from a classroom if the child or others are in immediate danger. A record of 'authorised' staff will be indicated on staff member's school file.

When and where to use restraint

The judgement on whether to use force and what force to use should always depend on the circumstances that staff find themselves in. Time in these circumstances is often short with little time for reflection. Nevertheless, staff needs to make the clearest possible judgements. Staff will need to decide the seriousness of the incident and the injury, disorder or damage that could occur if force is not used.

The chances of achieving a desired outcome by other means and the risks associated with physical intervention compared with using other strategies. Staff will have been made aware of any significant children or young persons i.e. those on SEND/Child Protection Registers and in any extreme cases where there is a need to engage the police to avoid danger to themselves and others.

If a member of staff decides that the use of force is appropriate and an action of last resort then they should always:-

- advise giving a warning to the child or young person that a physical intervention may have to be used.
- suggest how the child is to be handled ensuring that no form of restraint is used that could constrict breathing.
- Appropriate means are passive physical contact such as standing between children or young persons or blocking a child's path, leading a child or young person by the hand or arm, ushering a child or young person away by placing a hand in the centre of the back or in more extreme circumstances using appropriate restrictive methods that a member of staff has been trained to perform.
- try to ensure that they do not use force unless or until another responsible adult is present to support, observe or call for assistance.

Examples of situations that particularly call for judgements of this kind include (but are not limited to):

- a child attacks a member of staff or other child.
- children are fighting, causing risk or injury to themselves or others.
- a child is causing or on the verge of committing deliberate damage to property, which could cause injury to themselves or others.
- a child absconds from a class or leaves school at an unauthorised time and they are putting themselves at risk of harm by doing so.
- a child persistently refuses to follow an instruction to leave a classroom and their presence may cause injury to themselves or others.

In these examples use of force would be reasonable (and therefore lawful) if it is clear the behaviour is dangerous and the situation could not be resolved in any other way. Account must be taken of the individual needs of the child their understanding of the situation.

Recording of incidents

A record sheet will be completed by all staff engaged in any incident where handling has taken place even if they did not handle the child. The record sheets will be kept in a secure file. Once completed they must be passed to the Headteacher. They must be completed once the situation has been dealt with to ensure accuracy and that it is a true and honest report. The Headteacher or other appropriate member of staff will inform the parents of the child by phone on the same day. The report will then be filed in the child's records. All accident, incident or near miss reports must be recorded.

Following any incidents where force has been appropriate the Headteacher will make arrangements to support the staff and children as these can be upsetting times. First aid will be administered by a trained first aider and emotional support will be provided as required. Staff will discuss the situation within a minimum of 2 days with the Headteacher to see if all procedures were followed and how we could try to avoid further repercussions, learning from the experience. Staff are encouraged to discuss any incident with the Headteacher as soon as possible.

Complaints procedures

The school has a clear complaints procedure and any complaints would be received in the first instance by the Headteacher. If matters were not resolved then the complainant would take the matter to the Governing Body.

The school's complaint policy and procedure can be found on the schools website: https://www.queen-eleanors.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=30

Caring touch

There may be circumstances when physical contact is appropriate and recovery other than that covered by Section 93 of the Education Inspection Act of 2006 i.e.:-

- contact in PE demonstrating technique or exercises.
- administering first aid.
- congratulating a child or young person or where a child is in distress and needs comforting
- young children and those with SEN may need staff to provide physical prompts or help.

In all these cases teachers must use their own professional judgement when they feel a child or young person needs this kind of support, which should always respect the wishes of the individual.

This policy will be monitored by the school and governors and will be reviewed on a regular basis. The Headteacher and staff will review the schools use of force strategy following any incidents and make any relevant changes to the policy.

06/05/2022

Headteacher:	J.Davies	**Date:**	06/05/2022
Chair of Governors:	C.Stennett	**Date:**	06/05/2022
Policy Number:	Touch and the use of restrictive physical intervention when working with children and young people – 2022-2023		