

Glamorgan School

Behaviour Management and Physical Restraint Policy

Rationale:

All children are entitled to a safe, positive environment in which to learn. This is best achieved by the implementation of a consistent school wide Behaviour Management system. Physical restraint is using force to prevent, restrict or subdue the movement of a student's body or part of the student's body and is a serious intervention. Amendments to the Education Act 1989 prohibiting seclusion and creating a legal framework for physical restraint came into effect 19 May 2017. New Education (Physical Restraint) Rules 2017 came into effect 15 August 2017 and amended Guidelines for Registered Schools in New Zealand on the use of Physical Restraint are now available. All schools are required to have read the amended Guidelines for Registered Schools in New Zealand on the use of Physical Restraint.

Purposes:

1. To actively encourage student behaviours that engender respect for one another and all others.
2. For students to take responsibility for their own behaviour by accepting consequences of their own actions.
3. To involve parents/caregivers, as much as is practicable, in the behaviour programmes within the school.
4. To provide appropriate support structures to assist teachers in dealing with identified behaviour problems.
5. To develop a shared understanding at staff, parent and student levels of the behaviour management system to ensure consistency.
6. To provide guidance around the use of physical restraint.

Guidelines:

1. Social skills are actively promoted within the school with the expectation that children tolerate difference, respect others rights, and accept that compromise is necessary to create a positive school environment. Steps To Success provides a framework to develop these skills.
2. Together teachers and children will ensure that each individual's rights and responsibilities are clear to everyone.
3. Adults are expected to role model appropriate social behaviour while on the school grounds or present at any associated school activities.
4. Children will be rewarded and acknowledged in a variety of ways for good aspects of behaviour and learning.
5. In the first instance, each teacher is responsible for endeavouring to resolve problems of behaviour within their own classroom.
6. The school has procedures in place to support staff when managing behaviour issues.
7. No school personnel will use corporal punishment.
8. Other agencies, e.g. Ministry of Education Special Education (MoE SE) and Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour (RTLB), may be called upon to assist both the school and parents/caregivers.

9. For more serious behaviour situations, the Principal will refer to the current Ministry of Education guidelines on Stand-downs and Suspensions.
10. The use of physical restraint is limited to teachers or authorised staff members only.
11. The authorisation of staff members who are not teachers will follow the process in Rule 5 of the Education (Physical Restraint) Rules 2017.
12. The use of physical restraint by teachers or authorised staff is limited to where:
 - there are reasonable grounds to believe that there is a serious and imminent risk to the safety of a student or of any other person, and
 - the restraint used is reasonable and proportionate in the circumstances.
13. Any incident of physical restraint will be notified to parents or caregivers.
14. Parents or caregivers will be notified if physical restraint is an element in a student's Individual Behaviour Plan.
15. Every incident of physical restraint will be reported to the Ministry of Education using an Information for the Ministry of Education and the employer form.
16. Teachers and staff who are authorised to physically restrain students will receive suitable training and support.
17. The school will follow the Education (Physical Restraint) Rules 2017 and use the systems and templates outlined in the Guidelines to record, notify, monitor and report the use of physical restraint.
18. Complainants with concerns regarding the use of physical restraint will need to follow the school's Concerns and Complaints Policy in the first instance.
19. Should a complaint (having followed the prescribed procedure) be escalated to the board, the board will contact the school's insurer and NZSTA Employment Advisory Team.

Signed: 

Date: 25th October 2017

Review Date: October 2020