

Physical Intervention Policy

Aim and Scope	
This policy sets clear expectations for the rare use of physical intervention at Brighton International Academy. It applies to all staff, students, volunteers and adults working with students during the school day, trips, activities and school events. It should be read with the Behaviour Policy, Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Health and Safety Policy.	
Policy Statement	
Physical intervention must only be used as a last resort to prevent immediate harm to a student or others. Property damage or leaving safe supervision justifies intervention only where it creates an immediate risk of harm. Intervention must never be used for punishment, convenience, intimidation or simple non-compliance. Any intervention must be necessary, proportionate and use the minimum force for the shortest possible time.	
Definition	When It May Be Used
Physical intervention means using limited physical contact or reasonable force to keep a child or others safe. This may include guiding, blocking, separating students or, in exceptional circumstances, holding a student briefly to prevent immediate danger.	• A student is at risk of hurting themselves or others. • Students are fighting or unsafe behaviour is escalating. • A student is damaging property in a way that creates danger. • A student is trying to leave a safe area and may be at risk.
Staff Must	Staff Must Not
• Use calm instructions and de-escalation first where possible. • Explain what is happening using simple language. • Use the least force for the shortest time. • Seek help from another adult as soon as possible. • Release or reduce contact when the student becomes safe.	• Act in anger, threaten, shame or punish a student. • Restrict breathing, hold the neck, twist limbs or pull hair. • Use pain, force a student to the floor or move a student who is lying down unless there is immediate danger. • Use physical intervention for refusal, disruption or convenience alone.
After Any Physical Intervention	
• Make the area safe, check the student and any others involved, and provide first aid or nurse support if needed. • Report the intervention promptly through Section 10.2 of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and complete a factual, signed and dated incident record. Any concern about excessive force or inappropriate adult conduct must be reported directly through Section 14. Obtain factual witness accounts where available and record if no witness was present. • Parent/carers communication must be managed by the DSL/DDSL under Section 12 of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, normally promptly after the incident, unless contact could increase risk or compromise safeguarding action. • The student and staff involved should be debriefed, support offered, and future prevention strategies agreed where needed. • Repeated or foreseeable risk must lead to a reviewed risk assessment, behaviour support plan and staff briefing.	
Monitoring, Review and Policy Management	
Incidents will be monitored by the Principal/DSL to identify patterns, training needs and further support. This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner following a serious incident, complaint or safeguarding update.	

Policy Management and Review	
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Reviewed by:	Ms. Nabilah El harraj
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Approval Authority:	Mrs. Eman