

Section:	Health and Safety	
Title:	Physical Restraint and Seclusion	180

Purpose

To outline the responsibility of providing a safe environment, and when necessary, to manage instances where a students’ aggressive or violent behaviour may harm the student, staff or other students.

Policy

The School District is responsible for providing a safe, personally secure, and respectful working and learning environment for all employees and all students. Threats or acts of aggressive or violent behaviour by students compromise this environment.

The School District will structure the learning environment and learning supports in order to prevent or minimize aggressive or violent student behaviour.

When behaviour interventions are not working, and when a student’s aggressive or violent behaviour is escalating to the point of compromising the safety of themselves or others, trained staff members may need to use physical restraint and/or seclusion to de-escalate the aggressive or violent behaviour.

There may be situations where physical restraint may be appropriate even though more moderate measures to de-escalate the behaviour have not been used (example: a student in the act of causing harm to another person).

Any employee acting reasonably (whether trained or not) may need to use reasonable force to protect students, other persons, or themselves from an imminent assault or serious physical harm.

Restraint and seclusion are to be used *only* as the last option and *only* until such time as the risk of serious harm to self or others is eliminated.

Physical restraint or seclusion is not to be used as an intervention or treatment procedure.

Respecting student’s rights, maintaining student dignity and the safety of all involved is paramount.

Appropriate School District staff, the Superintendent, and the students’ parents will be informed in a timely manner of any use of physical restraint or seclusion.

The use of physical restraint and seclusion must be handled in accordance with relevant provincial legislation and the School District’s administrative procedures.

Date of Original Board Approval: May 23 2017 (Policy #180)

Date Amended:

Cross Reference: [Administrative Procedures: 180-1](#)