



XXX: Physical Restraint and/or Seclusion of Students (P)

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POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of Education recognizes that it has a responsibility to maintain safe, orderly and caring school environments for all students and employees. Respect for student rights, maintaining student dignity and the safety of all involved is paramount. Every effort should be made to structure learning environments with effective learning supports and interventions to prevent and de-escalate potentially unsafe situations.

Physical restraint is applied *only* in emergency circumstances where the behaviour of a student poses imminent danger of serious physical harm to self or others and where less restrictive interventions have been implemented but proven ineffective in ending imminent danger of serious physical harm. The Board of Education does not endorse the practice of seclusion as a response to the behaviour of students and schools do not have rooms allocated for this purpose.

Where student's behaviour has escalated, it may result in a separation from others to an alternate quiet space to calm, or process a situation in privacy, until the student can return to their learning, or a parent/guardian is called. Further, it is expected that efforts will be made to determine the underlying causes of distressed behaviour to inform effective interventions for future use.

Resources and References

BC Ministry of Education and Child Care Provincial Guidelines - Physical Restraint and Seclusion in School Settings, <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/support/diverse-student-needs/physical-restraint-seclusion-guidelines.pdf>