

Administrative Procedure 357

RESTRAINT OF STUDENTS

Background

It is recognized that in given situations, it may be necessary to physically restrain students. Such restraining is to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Physical restraint is a judicious control measure with a resisting child in order to control movement, location and behaviour such as violence or abuse to persons, self or property.
- Physical restraining is a temporary measure to facilitate appropriate student behaviour.
- Restraining is required when the behaviour of a student poses danger to self, others and/or when there is a risk of serious damage to property.
- Appropriate training in restraint (Crisis Prevention Intervention) has been taken.

Procedures

1. Restraint

- 1.1 Physical contact is to be conducted:
 - 1.1.1 With controlled, unemotional, and reassuring statements that give reasons for the restraint and describe the necessary behaviour for ending the restraint;
 - 1.1.2 With the least amount of force required to protect student and restrainer;
 - 1.1.3 With the least amount of disturbance to the rest of the class;
 - 1.1.4 In the presence of another adult when possible.

2. Debrief

- 2.1 Debriefing is to occur with the student, so that both the restrainer and the student are comfortable that the incident has concluded.
- 2.2 During the debriefing, the student is to be encouraged to:
 - 2.2.1 State what happened; and
 - 2.2.2 State alternative appropriate behaviour.

3. Documentation

- 3.1 Documentation is to include:
 - 3.1.1 Time and location of incident;

- 3.1.2 Written statements that describe the incident which led up to the incident and the resolution;
 - 3.1.3 Indication that notification of the restraining has been communicated to both the Principal and the parents;
 - 3.1.4 Names of all people involved or witnessing the incident.
- 4. If restraint is required frequently, a meeting is to occur with the teacher, Principal, parents and/or other related professionals in order to discuss alternative strategies.
 - 5. If restraint occurs in a public place, persons in charge are to be informed of the situation whenever possible.

Reference: Sections 6, 20, 22, 65, 85 School Act
Civil Rights Protection Act
Human Rights Code
Youth Justice Act
Youth Criminal Justice Act (Canada)