

**SECLUSION AND PHYSICAL RESTRAINT****Rationale:**

To maintain safety of students and staff while at Whangarei Boys' High School. Seclusion is not to be used to manage challenging behaviour. Physical restraint is to be avoided and used as a last resort only.

Purpose:

To provide staff members with education, support and resources to avoid physical restraint towards students at Whangarei Boys High School.

Scope:

This policy applies to all staff.

Guidelines:

1. As seclusion has the potential to be traumatic for those involved, no student is to be secluded at Whangarei Boys' High School.
2. Physical restraint has legal risks if a student is harmed. More importantly, it can have negative emotional and physical effects on the student.
3. Staff are able to exercise physical restraint if there is an imminent risk to safety. The physical restraint must be reasonable and proportionate in the circumstances. Examples of this situation are:
 - A student is moving in with a weapon or something that could be used as a weapon
 - Breaking up a fight
 - A student is throwing furniture or breaking glass close to where it could injure others
 - Preventing a student from running onto a road.
4. For students who are showing regular high risk behaviour, an individualised plan will be created to assist those working with the student. The student's guardian will have involvement with this plan, having input into effective de-escalation techniques.
5. If a student needs to be restrained, staff need to notify the Principal or Deputy Principal as soon as possible. All incidences of physical restraint will then be entered into the MOE database (unless an Individual Behaviour Plan is in place). Parents must also be informed. The Principal will inform the Board of all instances of restraint.
6. Staff are to refer to the document "Guidance for NZ schools on Behaviour Management to Minimise Physical Restraint" (MoE 2017).

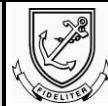
Related policies:

1. Behaviour Management
2. Drugs Alcohol and Other Mind Altering Substances
3. Extra – Territoriality
4. Safe School
5. Surveillance Search & Seizure

References or Sources:

Guidelines for Registered Schools in New Zealand on the Use of Physical Restraint 2017.

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Version: FINAL	Effective Date: May 2018	



Review details:

Review Date	Reviewed by
Prepared for endorsement to the BoT	BUK, SMK
Review cycle: 3 years	Due date for Review: Oct 2021

Management Contact:

Principal