


<p>Hambleton Primary Academy</p> <p>2023-2024</p>		<p>Physical Intervention Policy</p>
<p>Approved by:</p>	<p>Holly Wood - Headteacher</p>	<p>Date: September 2023</p>
<p>Last reviewed on:</p>	<p>September 2023</p>	
<p>Next review due by:</p>	<p>September 2024</p>	

## Introduction

This policy outlines the guidelines and procedures for using physical intervention when dealing with challenging behaviours at Hambleton Primary Academy. Our school is committed to creating a safe environment, utilizing a TeamTeach approach that prioritises positive behaviour support and de-escalation techniques. Physical intervention is used only as a last resort to protect individuals or property.

## Definitions

- Physical Intervention: Any form of physical force used to restrict the free movement of a person's body.
- De-escalation: Verbal and non-verbal techniques used to calm a situation and prevent the need for physical intervention.
- Reasonable Force: The minimum amount of force necessary to achieve the desired outcome of preventing harm to self or others.
- Serious Harm: Significant physical injury, psychological distress, or damage to property.

## Prevention and De-escalation (TeamTeach Emphasis)

- Proactive Strategies: All staff receive training in TeamTeach principles, including:
  - Understanding triggers and antecedents to challenging behaviours
  - Positive behaviour support and proactive classroom management
  - Effective communication skills
  - Graduated de-escalation techniques appropriate to the setting and population served
- Individualised Plans: For individuals with known behaviour challenges, a team

will develop a plan that includes preventative strategies, TeamTeach de-escalation techniques, and may specify approved physical intervention techniques only if necessary to protect safety.

### **Authorised Physical Intervention Techniques (TeamTeach)**

- Staff will use only TeamTeach-trained and approved techniques. Techniques emphasize safety and control, never punishment.
- Staff must maintain current TeamTeach certification to be authorized for physical intervention use.

### **When Physical Intervention is Justified (TeamTeach)**

- Physical intervention aligned with TeamTeach principles will only be used:
  - To prevent an individual from causing immediate serious harm to themselves or others.
  - To prevent serious damage to property.
  - When all other de-escalation TeamTeach interventions have been exhausted or are deemed inappropriate to the situation.

### **Use of Force (TeamTeach)**

- The minimum amount of force necessary, as dictated by the situation and TeamTeach training, will be used to achieve the desired, safe outcome.
- Physical intervention will be discontinued as soon as the individual is no longer a threat to themselves or others.
- Staff are prohibited from using physical intervention techniques that inflict pain, restrict breathing, or are likely to cause injury. These are never in line with TeamTeach principles.

### **Documentation and Reporting**

- Incident Reporting: Any use of physical intervention must be immediately documented with a detailed report that includes:
  - Description of events leading up to the incident
  - De-escalation techniques attempted
  - Specific physical intervention techniques used
  - Duration of the intervention
  - Individuals involved and any injuries sustained
  - Post-incident follow-up
- Reporting to Authorities: Incidents will be reported according to any local/national regulations or as outlined in contracts with partner agencies.
- Reporting to Parents/Guardians: Parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible following an incident.

### **Review and Debriefing**

- Incident Review: A team will review each incident involving physical intervention

to:

- Determine if the intervention was justified
- Identify any alternative strategies that could have been used
- Update individual behaviour plans as needed
- Staff Support: Staff involved in physical intervention will be offered debriefing and support.

### **Training (TeamTeach Emphasis)**

- Initial and ongoing TeamTeach training is mandatory for staff authorized to use physical intervention techniques. This includes:
  - This physical intervention policy
  - Positive behaviour support
  - TeamTeach de-escalation techniques
  - Approved physical intervention techniques (with professional TeamTeach certification)
  - Documentation and reporting procedures

### **Policy Review**

The next scheduled review date for this policy is [September 2024.](#)