

# Oakwood Infant and Nursery School



## Physical Intervention Policy

(OAK068/01/2021)

### School Mission Statement

*At Oakwood Infant and Nursery School we provide a safe, healthy, happy and creative learning environment for everyone, through high expectations and mutual respect.*

*We are all stars watch us shine.*

Reviewed: 08.01.2020

Approved: 08.01.2020

Next Review Date: January 2021

Signed.....Date.....

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### **Penetration Testing and security evaluation for Oakwood Infant and Nursery School**

The Schools Broadband Service that your school receives is delivered through Essex County Councils Next generation Network (NGN) Contract.

Under the service provided our supplier Daisy Updata Communications Ltd (DUCL) is required to perform at least annually, an IT Health Check (ITHC) of Essex NGN (Next Generation Network infrastructure to provide assurance that their organisationally critical external facing systems are protected from any unauthorized access or change attempt, and that these do not provide an unauthorized entry point into systems that consume Essex NGN services (Essex Corporate and Essex Education Services).

The internal infrastructure needs to be tested to provide assurance that no significant weaknesses or vulnerabilities exist on the network infrastructure or individual systems that could allow one internal device either intentionally or unintentionally to impact on the security of another.

During December 2018 DUCL completed the required IT Health Check and provided a comprehensive report which details the results of penetration testing and security evaluation. Penetration testing has identified details of vulnerabilities/weaknesses detected, level of risk and provides recommendations to remediate these.

You will be pleased that no vulnerabilities pertaining to the equipment/systems within your schools' environment were found and **this fact needs to be recorded in your GDPR records under security measures.**

# **Physical Intervention Policy**

## **Objectives**

- To maintain the safety of pupils and staff
- To prevent serious breaches of school discipline
- To prevent serious damage to property

## **Minimising the need to use physical intervention**

- We aim to create a calm environment that minimises the risk of incidents that might require the use of physical intervention
- We do all we can to de-escalate incidents if they do arise
- We only use physical intervention when the risks involved in doing so are outweighed by the risks involved in not using physical intervention
- Risk assessments, individual behaviour plans and positive handling plans are drawn up for individual pupils, as necessary

## **Staff authorised to use physical intervention**

- All members of staff who supervise pupils have the statutory power to use physical intervention

## **Deciding whether to use physical intervention**

Staff should only use physical intervention when:

- the potential consequences of not intervening are sufficiently serious to justify considering use of physical intervention
- the chances of achieving the desired result by other means are low; and
- the risk associated with not using physical intervention outweighs those of using physical intervention

Staff will be kept informed about and advised how to deal with pupils who present particular risks to themselves or others (as a result of SEN and/or disabilities and/or other personal circumstances.) This guidance will be provided by the Head teacher and/or SENCo.

## **Using physical intervention**

It is vitally important that only reasonable physical intervention necessary to achieve the desired result is used.

It is desirable, where practicable:

- to give a clear oral warning to the pupil that physical intervention may have to be used
- that any form of restraint that is likely to injure a pupil (particularly anything that could constrict breathing) is only used in extreme emergencies and where there is no viable alternative
- that physical intervention is not used unless or until another responsible adult is present to support, observe and call for assistance, if necessary

The types of physical intervention used could include:

- passive physical contact resulting from standing between pupils or blocking a pupil's path
- active physical contact such as:
  1. leading a pupil by the hand or arm
  2. ushering a pupil away by placing a hand in the centre of the back
  3. in more extreme circumstances, using appropriate restrictive holds, which may require specific expertise or training

### **Staff training**

All staff who supervise pupils will be offered appropriate training. Training will include ways of avoiding or defusing situations in which physical intervention might become necessary as well as methods of physical intervention.

### **Recording incidents**

Every significant incident in which physical intervention has been used will be recorded in writing

An incident is significant if a positive response is given to any of the following questions:

- Did the incident cause injury or distress to a pupil or member of staff?
- Even though there was no apparent injury or distress, was the incident sufficiently serious in its own right to require a written record? e.g. use of a restrictive hold
- Is a written record needed to be able to justify the use of physical intervention? This is particularly relevant where the judgement was very finely balanced
- Is a record needed to help identify and analyse patterns of pupil behaviour or staff training needs?
- Were other agencies involved?

An incident record will form part of a pupil's educational record.

## **Reporting incidents**

Recordable incidents will be reported to parents/carers by the Headteacher, initially orally, but confirmed in writing. The parents/carers will also be given a copy of this policy.

Parents/carers will be told:

- When and where the incident took place
- Which members of staff were directly involved (anonymised where necessary)
- Why they decided that physical intervention had to be used
- What physical intervention was used
- Whether there were any injuries
- What follow-up action was taken

Relevant injuries to staff or pupils will be reported to the Health and Safety Executive's Incident Contact Centre

All recordable incidents will be reported by the Headteacher to the Governors.

## **Post-incident support**

- Where injury has occurred, first aid will be provided immediately
- Where injuries go beyond first aid, medical help will be accessed immediately
- Where required, staff and pupils will be given emotional support

Support for staff and pupils will continue for as long as necessary in respect of:

- Physical consequences
- Emotional stress or loss of confidence
- Opportunities to analyse, reflect and learn from the incident

## **Complaints and allegations**

Parents and pupils have a right to complain about actions taken by school staff, including the use of physical intervention.

If a specific allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff then the school will follow the guidance set out in *Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education (Appendix A)*

Other complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the school's usual complaints procedure

## **Monitoring and review**

The named governor for Child Protection will monitor the impact of this policy.

### Linked Policies

Anti-bullying  
Child Protection  
Disability Equality  
Equal Opportunities  
Health and Safety  
Positive Behaviour Management