

POSITIVE HANDLING POLICY

Introduction

The policy has been prepared for the support of all teaching and support staff who come into contact with pupils and for volunteers working within the Trust, to explain the arrangements for the care and control of pupils presenting very challenging behaviour.

Purpose of the of

respond positively to the discipline and control practised by staff. This ensures the well-being and safety of all pupils and staff in Aspire North East Multi Academy Trust. It is also acknowledged that in exceptional circumstances, staff may need to take action in situations where the use of reasonable force may be required.

Every effort will be made to ensure that all staff in the Trust clearly understand this policy and their responsibilities in the context of their duty of care for taking appropriate measures where reasonable force is necessary.

Implications of the policy

In line with DfE guidance, the Education and Inspection Act 2006 stipulates that reasonable force may be used to prevent a pupil from doing, or continuing to do, any of the following:

- committing any offence
- causing personal injury to, or damage to the property of, any person (including the pupil himself)
- prejudicing the maintenance of good order and discipline at the academy or among any pupils receiving education at the academy, whether during a teaching session or otherwise

Individual members of staff cannot be required to use physical restraint. However, teaching and non-teaching staff

Definitions

The Trust will ensure that pupils are given support to understand the need for and respond to clearly defined limits, which govern behaviour in the academies.

Authorised staff

All staff employed within the Aspire North East Multi Academy Trust are authorised to use reasonable force within the context of The Education and Inspection Act 2006, S93 se of reasonable force.

Where appropriate, Positive Handling Plans are written for individual children and, when appropriate, these will be designed through multi-professional collaboration. These should be included in any Pastoral Support Plans/IEPs.

Risk assessments need to be completed against each child when it is anticipated that physical restraint may need to be used, in the context of identified target behaviour(s) and environments in which they occur. The assessment should identify the benefits and the risks associated with the strategies being proposed.

Positive handling and incident reports are completed and recorded following any use of restraint.

All parties involved in carrying out a restraint, including the pupil/s involved are assessed by a trained first aider, at the earliest available opportunity, the details of which are formally recorded.

Parents/carers are made aware of any incidents requiring the use of restraints involving their child.

Situations requiring a child to be restrained that escalate to what is deemed to be a serious level may result in requiring assistance from the police.

Last review date: 24.05.22

Persons Responsible: Lisa Mellefont (Assistant Headteacher Southmoor Academy)

Allison Johnston (Deputy Headteacher Sandhill View Academy)

Associated Policies: Behaviour Management

Health and Safety Risk Management Safer Working Practices

Further Government Guidance on the Use of reasonable Force – can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/444051/Use_of_reasonable_force_advice_Reviewed_July_2015.pdf

Education and Inspections Act 2006 Section 93 -

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/40/section/93