

Seclusion and Restrictive Interventions

Information for Parents and Carers

Contents

Seclusion and Restrictive Interventions.....	3
Why might these be used?	3
What is Restrictive Intervention?	3
What is Seclusion?	3
Our Commitments.....	3
If an incident occurs	4
Questions?.....	4

Seclusion and Restrictive Interventions

All schools have a duty to keep children safe and support their wellbeing. Most situations are managed through positive relationships, individualised support, and de-escalation strategies. However, there may be rare occasions when staff need to take immediate action to prevent someone from being harmed.

The Department for Education (DfE) introduced new guidance in 2026 to ensure schools use these measures safely, appropriately, and transparently.

Why might these be used?

In rare circumstances, staff may need to use a restrictive intervention to keep a child or others safe from harm.

What is Restrictive Intervention?

A restrictive intervention is an action taken to prevent injury, serious disruption, or significant damage to property. It is only used when necessary and for the shortest time possible. Staff who use restrictive interventions receive appropriate training and support to ensure interventions are used safely and proportionately.

What is Seclusion?

Seclusion means keeping a child away from others and preventing them from leaving for a short period because there is an immediate risk of harm to themselves or others. It is a safety measure and must never be used as punishment.

Our Commitments

- ✓ Safety comes first, focusing on de-escalation strategies whenever possible.
- ✓ Children are treated with dignity and respect
- ✓ Parents/carers will be informed of incidents and, where appropriate, be involved in reviewing support strategies to help prevent these happening in the future

If an Incident Occurs

We will inform you as soon as possible, usually the same day.

Questions?

Please contact the Principal or Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) at your child's academy, in the first instance, if you would like more information about our Seclusion and Restrictive Intervention Policy. Our aim is always to keep children safe, supported and ready to learn.