



Behaviour and Relationships Policy including Anti-Bullying Policy -

“Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be Ready”

Introduction

Good behaviour in school is necessary in order for children to feel safe and learn to the best of their abilities. Good behaviour is expected at all times: in the classroom; in the playground at playtime and lunchtime; on school trips and on the journeys to and from school.

At Dereham C of E Junior Academy, behaviour that is ‘over and above’ is what we strive for; behaviour that is not only good, but that goes beyond this and truly reflects an excellent attitude in any area of school life. This applies not only to the children but also to the adults that work in and visit our school. The school values positive relationships and we know that this is fundamental to ensuring good behaviour.

Aims

Our core aims are simple; we want all members of our school community to achieve their full potential, to be the best learners they can be and to make at least good progress.

This can only be achieved when behaviour is appropriate and:

- When everyone is being **respectful**
- When everyone’s behaviour is **safe**
- When everyone is **ready** to learn.

The above three words in bold make our very clear school behaviour code: ‘**Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be Ready**’.

A school where everyone is ‘respectful’ and ‘safe’, is a perfect place to be ‘ready’ to learn and fulfil potential.

Restorative Practice

In maintaining a school community where behaviour is respectful and safe and where everyone is ready for learning, adults will adopt and employ a **restorative** approach when responding to behaviours that challenge or harm.

If this behaviour occurs, staff will help the children learn from this. Like anything, good and better behaviour can be learnt and every opportunity will be taken to enable this. The key principles of Restorative Practice are:

- It focuses on harm caused and actively seeks ways of repairing that harm
- It gives everyone the opportunity to state their views, listen to others and acknowledge each other’s opinions
- Its process is fair, open, and honest and treats all participants with respect
- It allows all participants to engage, learn and gain a shared understanding
- It leads to accepting responsibility, reparation, reintegration and a change in behaviour.

For some restorative meetings, staff involved may use a script (see Appendix 1). All staff are trained in a restorative approach to behaviour and have undergone training that looks at how best to create a nurturing environment where children and adults feel safe and respected, and where responses to all behaviours are responded to in a predictable, consistent and relentless manner.

Adult Behaviours

The adults in school need to model exemplary behaviour. After all, if we want children to behave in the best way possible, the staff need to be examples. At Dereham C of E Junior Academy, this means staff will:

- Greet children warmly in the morning as they enter the classroom
- Be kind; respect what the children have to say and take an interest in their lives outside of school
- Be as ready as possible for the day
- Address the children calmly and only use a raised voice to alert people to danger or to draw attention, especially if far away
- Be consistent so that pupils get the same responses wherever they are and whomever they are with
- Work together as a team to celebrate good and better behaviour and address behaviours that challenge or harm
- Be humble and admit when they've made a mistake
- Endeavour not to shame a child by 'advertising' poor behaviour (only great behaviour is 'broadcasted').

It is impossible to list all the expected behaviours of adults in school. However, it is clear from the bullets above, the behaviour expectations for adults and children at our school are not that different in any way.

Behaviour at Dereham C of E Junior Academy

Everyone at our school is responsible for their own behaviour and for encouraging, recognising and celebrating the good and 'over and above' behaviour of others. Recognising this type of behaviour is at the heart of everything we do and is imperative in making sure that everyone knows what is expected of them.

Highlighting positive behaviour is also crucial in ensuring that everyone knows how much in abundance this is at Dereham Junior. When things go well and behaviour is good or over and above, this will be recognised publicly.

When behaviours that challenge or harm occur, the person concerned will be spoken to as privately as possible. Behaviours that challenge or harm are always addressed and there is always a consequence for them. We try not to 'publicise' it or administer immediate or arbitrary punishments as this is proven to be counterproductive and serves only to escalate an already difficult situation.

If consequences are logical, given privately (this is not always possible) and explained, pupils are more likely to learn from their mistakes. Furthermore, they are more likely to learn and acquire internal discipline¹ rather than rely on external discipline² to make sure their behaviour is satisfactory.

The next section outlines what we do to foster good and over and above behaviour as well as the consequences for behaviours that challenge and harm at different times during the school day.

Behaviour during lesson time

Constant recognition of expected behaviours – Whilst striving for behaviours that are over and above, it is important that we 'frame' the positive expected behaviour we see and try to avoid highlighting the negative. Constant recognition of what is expected creates a more purposeful, respectful, safe and ready environment. Therefore, adults should:

¹ This is understanding behaviour - sometimes referred to as self-regulation particularly within EYFS. If this is taught and learnt, it results in long-term change.

² This is when behaviour is controlled, often by imposition of rules and punishments that suppress difficult behaviour. Any change in behaviour will only short term and will not be maintained when the suppression is lifted.

- Acknowledge the expected behaviour in order to encourage others to follow suit: eg. *'I can see Lilly is **ready** as she has her pen and is looking this way.'* *'Thank you for moving in a bit, Tyler, so that Chris can walk by, that's really **respectful**.'*
- Give behaviour tokens to acknowledge expected good behaviour that is 'respectful, safe and ready'. These are visually displayed in order to help everyone appreciate how much this is in abundance at DJA.
- Where possible, avoid highlighting behaviour that doesn't follow expectations. This draws attention to undesirable behaviour rather than framing the good: *'Lilly, you need to look this way and stop talking.'* *'Don't fiddle with your pen, Chris, that's really annoying.'*

Going 'over and above' – Good behaviour is expected at Dereham C of E Junior Academy; the aim is to strive for behaviour that is over and above. When this behaviour is observed:

- It will be made high profile. For example, the class may be stopped so all can be made aware of it
- Why it is over and above will be referred to explicitly: *'What Holly just did in collecting all of those brushes by herself, has saved me a lot of time and effort. That is really over and above, Holly, and it means we are **ready** for the next session. Thank you, that is fantastic!'*
- Reference to how it relates to 'Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be Ready,' will be included (**above**)

Focusing on behaviour that is over and above creates an immediate, positive shift in expectations.

Positive Note – The Positive Note is the top recognition of great behaviour and takes the form of a message sent home to parents/carers on a postcard. Positive Notes are:

- Sent sparingly – only one or two a week (some weeks there may be none sent home)
- Given when children have gone over and above on a number of occasions in a week
- A chance to frame the excellent behaviour that has been observed
- To be 'advertised' in the classroom. They are prized and something to aspire to.

Positive Notes are not given for an isolated incident of *good* behaviour or for behaviour that is 'good for him/her'. Awarding a Positive Note for something less than is expected from everyone else is not fair on pupils who behave well all the time or for those who frequently go over and above and still don't get a Positive Note.

Responding to behaviours that challenge or harm:

All adults in school will respond to behaviours that challenge or harm during lesson time in a **consistent** manner by employing the stepped system below. A visual representation of this is seen in every classroom (see Appendix 4):

STEP		RESPONSE
1	Reminder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A reminder is given referencing which of the three rules (R,S,R) is not being adhered to. ● Delivered privately wherever possible – specifically use the phrase: <i>'This/That is a reminder.'</i>
2	Caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupil is made aware of which rule has not been adhered to (R, S, R) and it is made clear that they should think carefully: <i>'This/That is a caution. Think carefully about your next step.'</i> ● Delivered privately where possible.
3	Time Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Time Out can be outside the classroom, in another classroom, at the side of the field/hall (PE) ● It is a few minutes for the pupil to regulate, breathe, look at the situation from a different perspective and compose themselves. Timers are to be used as this will help self-regulation ● This also provides time for the adult to consider their next move. <p><i>It is not used as:</i></p>

		<p>An extended exclusion from the lesson (10 minutes maximum) or as a means of sending the pupil for someone else to 'deal with'³</p> <p>If a pupil reaches this point, it needs to be recorded on Arbor at the end of the day.* This repeated behaviour is likely to have caused continued low-level disruption and prevented teaching. Parents do not necessarily need to be phoned.</p>
4	Consequence	<p>If behaviour continues after a time out, then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The child will be required to work in another classroom for the remainder of the session (AM1/AM2/PM) ● They are sent with work to complete on their own and escorted, if necessary, by the TA <p>If a pupil reaches this point, it needs to be recorded on Arbor at the end of the day.* This repeated behaviour is likely to have caused continued low-level or considerable disruption and prevented teaching. Parents do need to be phoned.</p>
5	Repair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is vital that the child is spoken to at some point after the consequence, as this is the opportunity to teach expected behaviour. This may be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A quick chat at break time/lunchtime/after school ○ The opportunity to explain the impact their behaviour has on you, them and the others ○ This prepares the pupil for the return to the classroom after the consequence.

After each of the steps 1 – 3, the pupil concerned should be given a brief amount of take up time (2 minutes). This acts almost as a period of amnesty and avoids escalating things too quickly when both the adult and pupil may be feeling a little less calm.

If, in response to intervention from an adult at any point from steps 1 – 4, a pupil leaves the classroom without permission or refuses to leave the classroom as instructed, adults will not 'press' the situation. In these instances, the incident will still be recorded on 'Arbor', and step 4 will still take place when the situation is suitably calm.

Certain behaviours in the classroom may result in accelerating from step 1 to step 4 without the intervening steps. This may include:*

- Physical assault of another person
- Swearing or other inappropriate language including racist or homophobic name calling/abuse⁴
- Serious rudeness towards adults.

In each of these instances, the reason for escalating to step 4 needs to be explained and parents will still be notified.

Behaviour during playtime, lunchtime and around school outside of lessons

Celebrating good and 'over and above' behaviour:

The vast majority of pupils' behaviour at playtime and lunchtime is good and even better. This behaviour needs to be celebrated and clearly recognised. To this end, staff on duty will:

- Respond to the over and above behaviour as they would in the classroom (see page 3 'Going over and above')

³ Sending a pupil to someone else to 'deal with' sends a clear message that staff cannot cope with the existing behaviour. It is imperative that the adult responding to the behaviour 'picks up their own tab'. If appropriate, when meeting with the pupil later this can be alongside another colleague, but the colleague is an observer and is not to take 'control'. This is particularly pertinent for people covering classes.

⁴ If a pupil is a victim of this, they will also need to be spoken to. A senior member of staff will also need to be informed so that they can help the relevant member of staff follow up the incident and record appropriately.

- Report behaviour that is over and above to the pupil's class teacher via the use of a Golden Ticket. The class teacher will then acknowledge this behaviour 'publicly' in the classroom. The child keeps the Golden Ticket to take home and is sent the Head or Deputy to write their name on the display board in the hall
- Give behaviour tokens to acknowledge expected good behaviour that is 'respectful, safe and ready'. These are visually displayed in order to help everyone appreciate how much this is in abundance at DJA.

This consistency is very important and promotes the fact that good and better behaviour is expected everywhere in school. Furthermore, it needs to be recognised that great behaviour outside can also contribute to a Positive Note.

Responding to behaviours that challenge or harm outside of lessons:

When behaviours that challenge or harm are observed by staff on duty – teachers, TAs and MSAs – they are expected to respond in the same manner as adults would during lesson time:

- Address the children calmly and only use a raised voice to alert people to danger or to draw their attention if they are a distance away
- Privately/one to one if at all possible.

The same stepped structure used in the classroom can be applied to playtime and lunchtime. Again, some behaviours may result in accelerating to step 3 or 4, in fact this may be more likely on the playground/field than in the classroom due to the nature of the activities undertaken.

If step 3 is reached, time out is immediate. The duty teacher/member of staff will instruct the pupil to take 'time out' immediately (step 3). This could be in the form of:

1. Standing/sitting at the side of the playground or field (not sent in)
2. Walking and talking with the duty teacher who observed the behaviour
3. If it is a lunchtime, sent into the hall for 10 minutes' reset (this may need to be recorded on Arbor – to be decided by KS or SD)

If step 4 is reached, the consequence should be as immediate as possible. A suggested list of consequences to behaviours are in the table below:

Behaviour	Logical Consequence
Swearing aggressively at someone	Child spoken to about swearing outlining how behaviour is unfair to those that hear it (not respectful). <i>Pupil sent in (Deputy's/Head's office/Hall) for 'time out' or remainder of the playtime/lunchtime.</i>
Significant Physical Violence (more than -3 on Arbor)	Child spoken to about physical violence outlining how behaviour is not safe . <i>Pupil sent in (Deputy's/Head's office/Hall) for 'time out' or remainder of the playtime/lunchtime.</i>
Vandalism	Child spoken to outlining how behaviour is not respectful and is spoiling everyone's environment. <i>Pupil sent in (Deputy's/Head's office/Hall) for 'time out' or remainder of the playtime/lunchtime. Child to assist with repairs/cleaning up where possible.</i>
Racist or homophobic abuse	Child spoken to about racist or homophobic language outlining how behaviour is prejudiced, hurtful and unfair to victim and others that hear it (not respectful). <i>Pupil sent in (Deputy's/Head's office/Hall) for the remainder of the playtime/lunchtime. SLT made aware and respond according to policy in terms of recording and informing parents. (Any -5 incident will also need to be recorded on CPOMS, as per the Trust's procedures)</i>
Rudeness to staff including refusal to respond/running away	Child spoken to about rudeness outlining how behaviour is not respectful . <i>Pupil sent in (Deputy's/Head's office/Hall). If pupil is running away, class teacher made aware at end of playtime/ lunchtime and will miss next playtime if appropriate. Restorative conversation needed and an apology to 'victim' of rudeness.</i>
Bullying	Refer to Trust policy. Will not be an isolated incident.

In any of the above step 4 instances:

- It is a logical consequence the child is sent in to the school as the behaviour is either unsafe or disrespectful and no other children should be subject to experiencing this
- Record the incident in 'Arbor'. This is the duty teacher's responsibility if it takes place at playtime. However, if at lunchtime, MSA will inform SLT for them to follow-up and record
- Ensure incident is reported to the class teacher of the pupil so they are aware and can contact parents/carers.

After being further investigated, further consequences that are logical and relate to the behaviour displayed may take place in addition to the immediate steps 3 and 4.

Involving someone else

Occasionally, behaviours that challenge or harm may occur towards the end of a playtime or lunchtime, during transitions or at times when a teacher may be unable to respond immediately as they are with other children. In these instances, there are two possible responses:

- Teacher 'postpones' the necessary discussion as it is now time to learn. This can be used if the pupil has already regulated their behaviour and is in a position to return to the class and continue/start their learning
- The TA will explore the incident further away from the classroom (outside the classroom or walking and talking). The aim of this conversation is to help the pupil regulate their behaviour so they can return to class.

After these conversations, further consequences may be put in place but, again, they must be logical (relate to the behaviour incident) and will be arrived at through discussion with the class teacher.

Someone else will only be involved if neither the teacher nor TA can respond to it – this will not happen very often.

Pupils' conduct outside of school

DfE guidance states that the school may choose to act on behaviour issues beyond the school grounds, under specific circumstances. These include:

- When children are taking part in a school organised activity – a trip, visit or sporting competition
- When travelling to or from school
- When wearing school uniform
- If they pose a threat to a pupil.

Where the school decides to follow this course of action, staff will consider the possible consequences when back on the school premises and will always involve parents/carers.

Gathering the data together

Both the Head and Deputy are informed of most recorded incidents of behaviours that challenge or harm, through being alerted by our Management Information System (MIS), 'Arbor'. The data collated on 'Arbor' is shared daily and analysis is completed frequently. In addition to this, a senior member of staff carries out a more detailed analysis every term. The primary purpose of these analyses is to spot any patterns and identify any procedures for us to improve and amend. It also helps identify if any further training is needed to support pupils and staff.

Analysis of data also helps inform if a collaborative conversation with parents/carers of individual pupils might be beneficial in order to further support the pupil. Furthermore, findings from data are discussed with relevant teachers and may lead to further conversations with other members of staff:

- Year Leaders – to discuss involvement in potential academic interventions in the year group (to catch up)
- Pastoral Workers – to discuss possible involvement in therapeutic interventions

- SENCo – to discuss any potential educational needs that may be leading to behaviours that challenge or harm.
- Deputy or Head Teacher – to explore other avenues, such as advice from the SEMH or Inclusion Team if behaviours that challenge or harm are persistent.

Data regarding behaviour is routinely reported to the academy’s governors and the academy trust – DNEAT.

As well as the recording and gathering of behavioural data, the safeguarding team monitor the pupils’ use of school IT equipment during the day. Our network monitoring and content filtering software immediately alerts members of the safeguarding team to any pupil transgressions of our acceptable use agreement. A separate log is used to record each of these incidents but a member of the safeguarding team will contact parents and further record incidents on Arbor if their concerns are equivalent to stage 4 in our stepped system.

Positive Behaviour Support Plans (PBSPs)

For the majority of pupils, our behaviour expectations are easily adhered to and the children routinely go ‘over and above’. For some though, daily life in school can be a challenge and they may frequently display behaviours that are challenging or harmful. We work very hard to provide these individuals with support so they can learn how to behave in a more pro-social way. These pupils may require a Positive Behaviour Support Plan (PBSP).

PBSPs detail extra information regarding how staff should respond to behaviours and what we expect from the children for whom the PBSP is written. These can be shared with parents and carers of the pupil and the pupil themselves.

This extra level of support is needed for very few pupils but is used to ensure that everybody has the chance to succeed.

If a child has a PBSP, it is likely that adult responses and immediate consequences will be different to those listed on pages 3 – 5. This includes frequency of recordings on Arbor and contact with parents. This will be detailed on a child’s PBSP. Furthermore, an individual log may be set up for that pupil so that patterns in behaviour can be analysed in more detail. Even if a pupil has an individual behaviour log, an entry will still need to be made on ARBOR.

Suspensions and Exclusions

Dereham C of E Junior Academy is a fully inclusive school that welcomes all children and families. Its primary purpose is to ensure that children make good or better progress academically and are as **ready** as possible to contribute **respectfully** and **safely** to wider society to the best of their abilities. However, despite our school’s best endeavours to include children in a fully rounded education, if a child demonstrates behaviours that persistently challenge or harm, it can result in a suspension or permanent exclusion.

Reasons for suspensions or permanent exclusions can be:

- Serious physical assault against a pupil or adult
- Serious verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against a pupil or adult
- Bullying
- Sexual misconduct
- Drug and alcohol related incidents
- Damage
- Theft
- Persistent disruptive behaviour.

Thankfully, these behaviours are very rare and while this list is not exhaustive, we take great care to consider each incident in isolation. We strongly feel that the best place for a child is in our school and will only consider permanent exclusion if all other avenues have been exhausted.

Use of Reasonable Force

As outlined in the Department for Education's guidance: 'Restrictive interventions, including use of reasonable force, in schools Guidance for schools in England' (April 2026), all staff in school are lawfully allowed to use 'reasonable force' to guide or restrain pupils should it be deemed necessary.

All staff are trained in the use of physical intervention⁵ and should the need for more *restrictive* physical intervention (RPI) be deemed necessary, further training will be delivered. The use of RPI is very rarely required.

If restrictive physical intervention has taken place or it is viewed as possibly being necessary for a particular pupil, a PBSP will be created for that pupil where it is clearly stated that RPI may need to be used.

This would only be needed if a pupil is at risk of causing significant harm. Harm is defined as:

- Harm to self
- Harm to others
- Damage to property
- Loss of learning (for others).

Norfolk Steps (Step on)

DJA staff who have regular contact with children are trained according to the 'Norfolk Steps (Step On)' programme⁶. Simon Dack (Deputy Head) and Kelly Scott (Head Teacher) are trained as Steps Tutors. Being a Steps Tutor includes yearly refresher training and regular supervision with the course leaders should it be required.

Simon Dack and Kelly Scott deliver refresher training every two years for those staff that have already received the full training and train new staff when they are appointed. The most recent round of refresher training was completed in September 2025.

While 'Norfolk Steps' does include training on Physical Intervention (Step On) and further Restrictive Physical Intervention (Step UP) techniques, it's primary function is to encourage a therapeutic approach to behaviour in school. Many of the terms used in this policy derive from the school's Steps training and the restorative and therapeutic approach to behaviour we advocate. The use of restrictive physical intervention has been updated in line with April 2026's DFE document and guidance: 'Restrictive interventions, including the use of reasonable force, in schools (Guidance for schools in England).

Using consequences instead of punishments; fostering an ethos built on praise rather than one on 'public' shaming; learning and being taught pro-social behaviours rather than reacting only to the 'bad'; de-escalating and disempowering behaviours that challenge and/or harm rather than giving it more fuel, are all key components of 'Steps' and are instrumental in everything we do. For more information on this, please feel free to make an appointment with Mr Dack or your child's class teacher.

Bullying

For detailed information on the school's stance and procedures around bullying, please refer to the DNEAT's stand-alone policy: NS04 – Anti-Bullying Policy (Pupils and Students) – To be reviewed in March 2026.

Child on Child Sexual Violence or Sexual Harassment

⁵ See appendix 3 for DJA procedures for 'Physical Intervention' and 'Restrictive Physical Intervention'.

⁶ From September 2023, staff 'Step On' training is undertaken online as well as face to face. Refresher training is face to face.

We recognise that children are vulnerable to physical, sexual, and emotional abuse by their peers or siblings. Abuse perpetrated by children can be just as harmful as that perpetrated by an adult, so it is important for all staff and volunteers to remember the impact on both the victim of the abuse as well as to focus on the support for the child or young person exhibiting the harmful behaviour. We understand that abuse can occur in intimate personal relationships between peers; and that consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi nudes' images and/or videos (also known as sexting or youth produced sexual images) is a form of child-on-child abuse.

We understand, that even if there are no reports in our setting it does not mean it is not happening, it may be the case it is not reported. We recognise that pupils may not find it easy to tell staff about their abuse and can show signs or act in ways that they hope adults will notice and react. In some cases, the victim may not make a direct report, and this may come from a friend or a conversation that is overhead. Such abuse will always be taken as seriously as abuse perpetrated by an adult and the same safeguarding children's procedures will apply in respect of any child who is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm. Staff must never tolerate or dismiss concerns relating to child-on-child abuse; it must never be tolerated or passed off as 'banter', 'just having a laugh' or 'part of growing up'. Doing this can lead to a culture of unacceptable behaviours, an unsafe environment for children and in worst case scenarios a culture that normalises abuse leading to children accepting it as normal and not coming forward to report it.

Please see our Safeguarding Policy for further information.

Final statement

All staff are committed to making sure that Dereham C of E Junior Academy is an excellent place to learn and grow. Communicating our behaviour policy to all is central to school life and staff will do all they can to make their pupils' school a place that is always, **Respectful, Safe and Ready**.

***This asterisk refers to guidance given to staff on how to record this on our Management Information System (ARBOR).**

Appendix 1 – SCRIPTS

The Restorative Meeting/Conversation Script

The Restorative Meeting requires planning.

The meeting can be conducted while, walking and talking or engaging in a collaborative activity like Lego, Play-Doh or a jigsaw for example. This makes it less pressured or forced. Enough time needs to be given over to the meeting (15 minutes although it may only last 10) and the adult's time needs to be completely dedicated to the pupil, they are not to be distracted by other things or people.

The Script

Try and remember 'The Restorative 5':

1. **What Happened?**
2. **What were you thinking at the time?**
3. **How were you/Archie feeling?**
4. **How did this make people feel?** (*onlookers, classmates, adults who saw it*)
5. **How might we make things better for Archie/you/Mrs Teacher?** (*don't push for an apology*)

It's key to remember these 5, but additional questions could include:

- **What can you do to help put this right?**
- **How can we make it ok for you to play safely?**
- **What could you do differently next time?**
- **What do you think Archie/Mrs Teacher might need?**

The De-escalation Script

When a pupil is behaving in a difficult or dangerous way and they may appear very upset, intervention is needed.

Using a set script has been proven to work and help de-escalate feelings at that most difficult of times.

The de-escalation 5:

1. **Individual's name**
2. **I can see something has happened**
3. **I am here to help**
4. **Talk and I will listen**
5. **Come with me and...**

Appendix 2 – Positive Note

Postcards that are sent home to acknowledge and celebrate behaviour that is 'Over and Above':



Appendix 3 – Physical Intervention and Restrictive Physical Intervention – DJA Procedures

All staff who come into contact with the children in our school have undergone Steps Training provided by an accredited tutor (Simon Dack – Deputy Head/Kelly Scott - Head) Part of this training focuses on Physical Intervention (PI) and Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI) where staff are taught appropriate techniques.

The use of restrictive physical intervention has been updated in line with April 2026's DfE document and guidance: 'Restrictive interventions, including the use of reasonable force, in schools (Guidance for schools in England).

Definitions

PI – Any form of appropriate touch where no element of restriction is in evidence. For example, compliant hand-holding, supportive hug, basic guiding, fist bump, hand on the shoulder, hair ruffle, etc.

RPI – Any kind of appropriate physical act that restricts the movement of a pupil.

When they are used

PI – To provide comfort (for example, compliant hand-holding or supportive hug) or to acknowledge positive behaviours and pupil successes (fist-bump, hand shake, supportive hug, etc). To guide from one area to another without restriction of movement. Please note, as per DfE guidance, we DO NOT have a 'no-touch' policy in school.

RPI – When the pupil is at risk of causing 'harm'. All staff have been trained to identify harm as being the following:

1. Significant harm to self
2. Significant harm to others
3. Significant damage to property
4. Causing significant loss of learning.

If any of the above 4 harmful behaviours are taking place, any trained member of staff is allowed to employ RPI which is 'reasonable, necessary and proportionate'. This is only used as a last resort and:

'Any restrictive intervention must be based on an assessment that intervention is likely to cause less harm than not intervening.' – *BILD – Restraint Reduction Network training Standards 2019*.

What are our procedures for when we employ RPI?

RPI is only ever used as a last resort. Where possible, we endeavour to make sure that 2 adults are present during any RPI. This is not always possible if the harm being caused is immediate. However, our preferred procedures are:

1. The concerned member of staff or an alternative contacts KS or SD via internal phone. If neither is answering, a staff member should physically go to find them. LH or DP are alternatives
2. Both members of staff make a dynamic risk assessment and decide if RPI is required⁷
3. One member of staff leads RPI while the other observes and is prepared to support or take the place of the other if needed
4. Both members of staff adhere to our '*safety (from harm) not destination*' approach. This means that as soon as the risk of harm has been negated, RPI stops.

Recording Incidents

If RPI is used, a 'Record of Harm' form is completed. Any staff involved, record RPI techniques that have been used as well as the restorative procedures that are used to 'repair' the situation. Once RPI has been used for a pupil and it is

⁷ As mentioned above, there may not be time for this if the risk of harm is immediate and significant. In these instances RPI may need to be performed by 1 person.

viewed that this may be needed again in the future, a Positive Behaviour Support Plan (PBSP) will need to be created for that pupil on which it must be stated that RPI may be used.



“Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be Ready”



