

RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION POLICY

Help for nonEnglish speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Keysborough Secondary College.
Phone 03 9798 1877 Acacia Campus or 03 9546 4144 Banksia Campus or email at:
keysborough.sc@education.vic.gov.au.

This Policy is a direct upload of the Department of Education and Training (DET) Policy on Restraint and Seclusion found in the Policy Advisory Library (PAL) DET. This Policy must NOT to be altered in any manner unless updated by the Department.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure Keysborough Secondary College staff are informed about the Department of Education and Training's (DET's) policy about student restraint and seclusion including that it is only used when certain conditions are met, and that appropriate standards and procedures are followed. This policy details reporting and notification requirements and the responsibilities that College Department staff have in relation to incidents of physical restraint and seclusion.

Keysborough Secondary College must ensure that this policy is communicated to new staff on induction and included as a link in staff handbooks/manuals.

Keysborough Secondary College must comply with existing obligations to protect the privacy of students and data when managing incidents of physical restraint and seclusion.

Keysborough Secondary College will communicate this policy to the College community by placing a link to it on the College website and in the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

This policy is supported by the [Restraint and Seclusion Guidelines](#) and [Resources](#)

What is Physical Restraint?

Physical restraint is the use of physical force to prevent, restrict or subdue the movement of a student's body or part of their body. Students are not free to move away when they are being physically restrained.

Physical restraint does not include protective physical interventions which use physical contact to block, deflect or redirect a student's actions, or disengage a student's grip, but from which a student can move freely away.

What is Seclusion?

Seclusion refers to leaving a student alone in a room or area from which they are prevented from leaving by a barrier or another person. This includes situations where doors are locked as well as where the door is blocked by other objects or held closed by another person.

Seclusion does not include supervised situations such as out-of-school suspensions, detentions, or exam situations; other situations where the student can freely exit an area, or suspension and expulsion from school.

Authorisation to use Physical Restraint and Seclusion

Regulation 25 (Restraint from danger) of the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 provides that a member of staff of a government school may take any reasonable action that is immediately required to restrain a student of the school from acts or behaviour that are dangerous to the member of staff, the student, or any other person

The DET Restraint and Seclusion Policy authorises Keysborough Secondary College staff to use physical restraint and seclusion when

- f* reasonable and immediately required to protect the member of staff, the student, or any other person from acts or behaviour that may be dangerous to them
- f* the primary purpose of using physical restraint and seclusion is to prevent harm to a student or someone else.

Children cannot consent to being physically restrained or secluded.

Parents/carers cannot consent to the use of physical restraint or seclusion.

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When physical restraint and seclusion are prohibited, college staff must never use physical restraint and seclusion as behaviour management techniques, for convenience, as retaliation, or to discipline or punish a student.

Physical restraint must never be used where it has the effect of:

- f* covering a student's mouth or nose, or in any way interferes with breathing
- f* taking a student to the ground into the prone or supine position
- f* putting stress on a student's joints
- f* applying pressure to the neck, back, chest or joints
- f* deliberately applying pain to gain compliance
- f* intentionally causing a student to fall
- f* having a person sitting, lying, or kneeling on a student's neck, back, chest or joints

ProvideSupport to those Involved

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

f Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act ~~2006~~

APPENDIX A

In accordance with the Charter, certain rights may be subject under law to reasonable limitations that can be demonstrably justified. It is important to note however that limitations on some rights, ha, masoi (i)5.1(l)5.1