

EDUCATION: STUDENTS

Policy 504.12-G

Physical Restraint of Students

All school personnel will be provided regular opportunities for training in positive behaviour interventions, supports and de-escalation techniques, including non-violent crisis intervention. School personnel who work with a student where there is a potential for imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others are expected to have been trained in crisis intervention and the safe use of physical restraint and seclusion.

Any space used for the purpose of seclusion will not jeopardize the secluded student's health and safety. Any student placed in seclusion will be continuously monitored by an adult who is able to see the student throughout the period of seclusion. All health and safety policies or regulations including WorkSafe BC regulations will be followed.

Where possible, school personnel should communicate with the student in the student's primary language or mode of communication through an event of seclusion or restraint.

The District Support Team member responsible for the school or program will work with staff to develop a detailed safety plan that includes emergency and safety procedures regarding the use of physical restraint and seclusion. It is expected that parents and, where appropriate, students, are offered opportunities to be consulted in the development of positive behavior supports and interventions, behavior plans, or safety plans.

Should seclusion or physical restraint be employed:

- there is a reporting process or mechanism for recording incidents of physical restraint and seclusion;
- every instance where physical restraint and/or seclusion of a student occurs will be documented;
- prevention/intervention strategies should be reviewed and revised in situations where:
 - repeated use of physical restraint and seclusion for an individual student occurs;
 - multiple uses of physical restraint and seclusion occur within the same classroom;
 - or, physical restraint and seclusion is repeatedly used by an individual;
- de-briefing after each incident involving the use of physical restraint or seclusion will include:
 - notification to the school principal as soon as possible after an incident and always prior to the end of the school day on which the incident occurred;
 - notification by the school principal or designate to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) as soon as possible will occur and will be documented;
 - a debriefing with involved school personnel, parents/guardians of the student will occur and, where possible, with the student, examining what happened/what caused the incident, and what processes might be changed, i.e. preventative and response actions that could be taken in the future, to make the use of physical restraint or seclusion unnecessary.