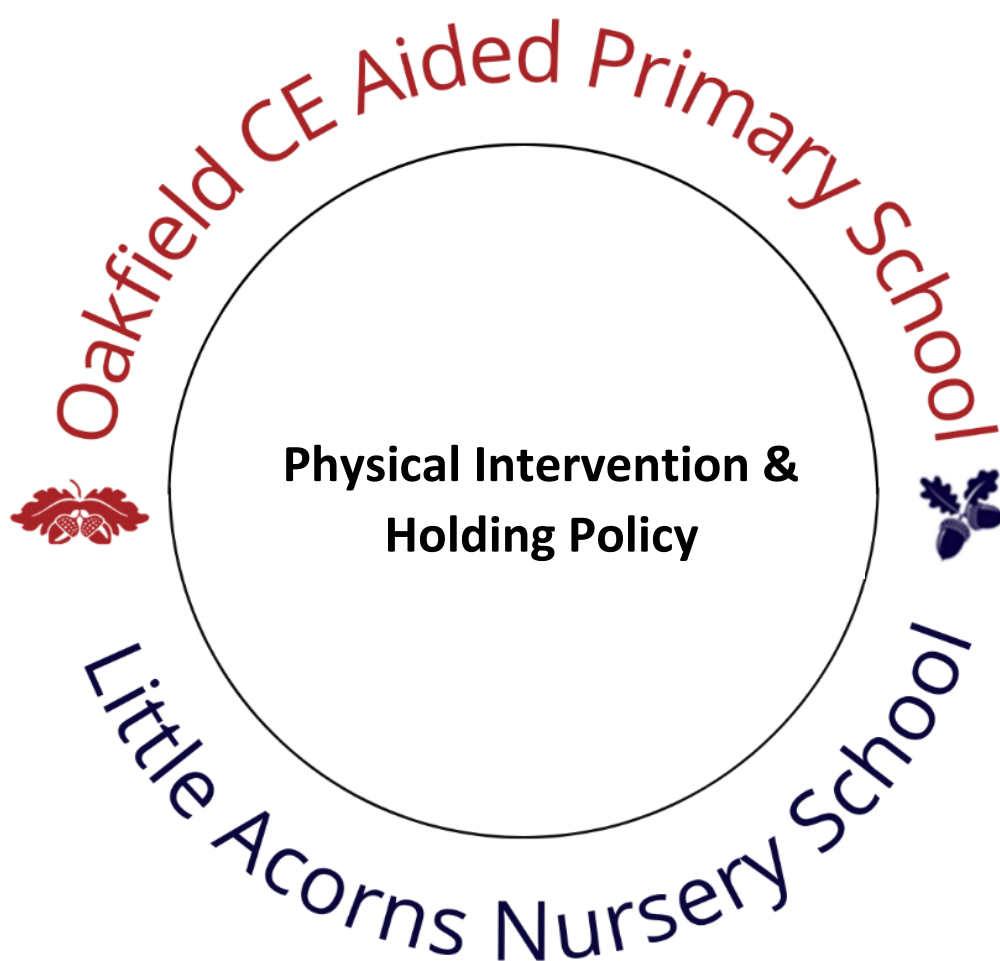
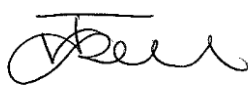




Date of Approval:	16 th December 2024
Committee/FGB	FGB
Responsible:	Vikki Reader – Headteacher
Review Date:	December 2025

Signed:  Chair of Governors

Signed:  Headteacher

Date: 16th December 2024

REVISION No:	Date Policy issued:	Date Policy Revised:	Prepared by:	Approved by:	Comments:
2	20/10/22		MG	CAL Committee	Changed front page to new format
3	10/10/23	10/12/24	BH	FGB	Changed name of policy from Physical Restraint and holding policy to Physical Intervention and holding policy. Changed word 'restraint' to 'intervention' throughout. Pg2 changed named of Physical Intervention form to Physical Intervention form Added above form to appendix at bottom of policy.

Legal framework

Physical intervention should be limited to emergency situations and used only as a last resort. This policy is in line with the Department of Education 2013 publication 'The use of reasonable force in schools'. This policy enables staff in school to use such force as is reasonable in the circumstances, to prevent a pupil from:

- Committing an offence
- Causing personal injury to themselves or someone else
- Causing damage to property and the environment
- Engaging in any behaviour that jeopardises the maintenance of a calm and safe environment for all

Definition of physical interventions at Oakfield

Physical intervention or safe holding is the application of force with the intention of protecting the child from harming themselves, others, or seriously damaging property.

We recognise that the use of physical intervention is a last resort and the last of many strategies employed to secure pupil safety and wellbeing and to maintain positive order within our learning environment. Key staff who work with pupils with more complex issues are trained in Team Teach (or MAYBO) positive handling techniques and employ a de-escalation approach to challenging situations. This policy should be read in conjunction with our Optimising Behaviour Through Relationship Policy and Child Protection/Safeguarding policy.

Specific aims of the policy are:

- To protect every person in the schools community from harm

- To protect all pupils against any form of physical intervention that is unnecessary, inappropriate, excessive or harmful
- To provide adequate information and training for staff as to what constitutes appropriate behaviour and how to deal confidently and effectively in challenging situations

Why use intervention?

Physical intervention and positive handling should avert danger by preventing or deflecting a pupil's action, or perhaps by removing a physical object which could be used to cause harm to themselves or others.

It is not possible to define every circumstance in which physical intervention may be necessary but all staff exercise their professional judgement and expedite a dynamic risk assessment in any situation. Pupils with more complex needs have an individual behaviour plan that all key staff contribute to. This is personal to each individual and serves to be a risk assessment and tool to recognise the triggers and behaviours a pupil may have along with positive strategies that specifically work for that young person. De-escalation and alternative/reactive strategies would be identified within this plan, as well as where appropriate the key adults that the student responds to more effectively.

Staff are aware of their responsibility of ensuring every pupil's safety and well-being during the school day and during any supervised activities. Failure to restrain a pupil who subsequently injures themselves or someone else could result in an accusation of negligence. Alongside this, staff are not expected to place themselves in situations where they are likely to suffer injury as a result of their intervention.

There are also some forms of physical intervention, which may involve minimal physical contact, such as blocking a pupils' path or the staff member physically interposing themselves between the pupil and another pupil, or an object.

When physical intervention becomes necessary, we will:

- Explain to the pupil what we are doing and why
- Use the minimum force necessary
- Involve another member of staff, whenever possible
- Explain to the pupil what they need to do so that the intervention can be removed
- Use simple and clear language and remain calm

Actions after the physical intervention

The staff involved in the intervention must complete a Physical Intervention form (Appendix 1) and a copy should be given to the Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) on the same day. Parents and carers must be informed of the intervention and the situation leading to it.

A restorative approach to restoring the situation, following an intervention, is applied, between the pupil and the staff involved, overseen by the HT/DSL where appropriate and involving parents and carers, where necessary or possible.

Individual behaviour plans are a working document and may be updated in terms of strategies and risk assessment following any situation where physical intervention has been necessary.

Complaints

This policy aims to be clear and the expectation is that it is adhered to by all staff and shared with parents via the website. In the event of a dispute about the use of force by a member of staff advice will be sought by the Headteacher from the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) as to whether an investigation should be carried out internally or externally.

Physical Intervention Record Form

School DCSF No.....Year Group.....

Name of child/young person

Is this young person a looked after child/SEN/vulnerability?

When did the incident occur?

Date	Day of week	Time	Where?

Staff involved

Name	Designation	Team Teach trained?	Involved: physically? (P) as observer? (O)	Staff signature

Please describe the incident and include:

1. What was happening before? 2. What do you think triggered this behaviour? 3. What de-escalating techniques were used prior to physical intervention? 4. Why was a PI deemed necessary? 5. Any other information relevant to include.

--

If Team Teach trained.... Team Teach technique(s) used (tick as appropriate)

Technique	Standing/escort	Sitting/chairs	Kneeling	Ground
Breakaway/defensive				
One person				
Two people				

Please give details below of hold, e.g. single elbow, double elbow, wrap, etc.

If not Team Teach trained, please tick below.

☐ Reasonable force used as physical intervention.

How long was the child/young person held?

If the child/young person was held on the ground: Did they go to ground independently?*

☐

(e.g. did the child lift their weight off the floor, or go deadweight)

Were they taken to ground by staff?*

☐

**tick as appropriate*

Good practice dictates that schools should review what happened and consider what lessons can be learned, which may have implications for the future management of the pupil. These need not be added to this form but should be incorporated in the individual plans for the child.

Has the child/young person been held before?	Yes/No
<i>A child/young person should have an individual plan clearly detailing reactive strategies and physical intervention approaches if they have been involved in physical interventions on more than one occasion.</i>	
Does the individual support plan need to be reviewed as a result of this incident?	Yes/No
Does the risk assessment need to be reviewed as a result of this incident?	Yes/No
If yes, who will action and when? (less than four weeks)	

Who was the incident reported to, and when?

Was there any medical intervention needed?

Yes/No

Include names of any injured person and brief details of injuries

Please specify any related record forms

Accident Book ☐

Anti Bullying and Racist Incident Record Form

☐

Skin Map ☐

Violent Incident Record ☐

Complaints recorded

☐

Other (please specify)

Was the pupil debriefed?

Yes/No

Were staff offered a debrief?

Yes/No

Was it taken up?

Yes/No

Parents/carers were informed

Date	Time	By whom?	By direct contact, telephone, letter?

Form completed by:	Name	Designation	Date and time

If further advice is required around any issues related to physical intervention or the completion of this form please contact Helen Carlow on 01962 876217