

Positive handling policy

Definition of Restraint:

The use of physical presence to alter the course of action of another member of the college community or visitor.

Under no circumstances should physical force be used as a punishment.

We should avoid

- Doing anything that might be beyond the presumptive definition of reasonable force.
- Touching or holding a student in a way that might be considered inappropriate.

We should

- Always try to deal with a situation through other strategies before using force. (Thus the use of physical restraint is a last resort).
- Use restraint in the following emergency situations but be very aware that it should be at the minimum level necessary to protect both the student involved and other members of the College.

Restraint may be used to prevent a student:

- Committing a criminal offence (or what would be a criminal offence if they were old enough).
- Injuring themselves or others.
- Damaging property.
- Acting in a way that is counter to maintaining a good order and discipline in the college. (It would be useful to contact a member of the SMT but we recognize that this is not always possible).

In the event of a student walking out of a lesson, unauthorised leaving of boarding or other college activity, physical restraint should NOT be used. It would be suffice to inform the student that they are "*breaking college rules, disobeying a lawful instruction and there will be serious consequences following this*". The issue should then be reported to a member of the college SMT.

Reasonable physical interventions might be:

- Placing yourself between students.
- Blocking a student's path.
- Holding.
- Pushing or pulling. (to remove a student from danger)
- Leading a student by the hand or arm.
- Shepherding a student away by placing a hand in the centre of the back.

Any incidents that occur that involve deliberate contact other than extremely minor physicality should be discussed with at least one of the following: the Head of Boarding, the Principal, Vice Principal or the most senior teacher available, within 24 hours. A record of the event must be made using the form on the p:drive (see below). Parents will be informed.

Kevin Jones June 2019

REPORT OF REASONABLE RESTRAINT OF A STUDENT

Name of student..... Cohort.....

Member(s) of staff restraining student

Member(s) of staff at the scene

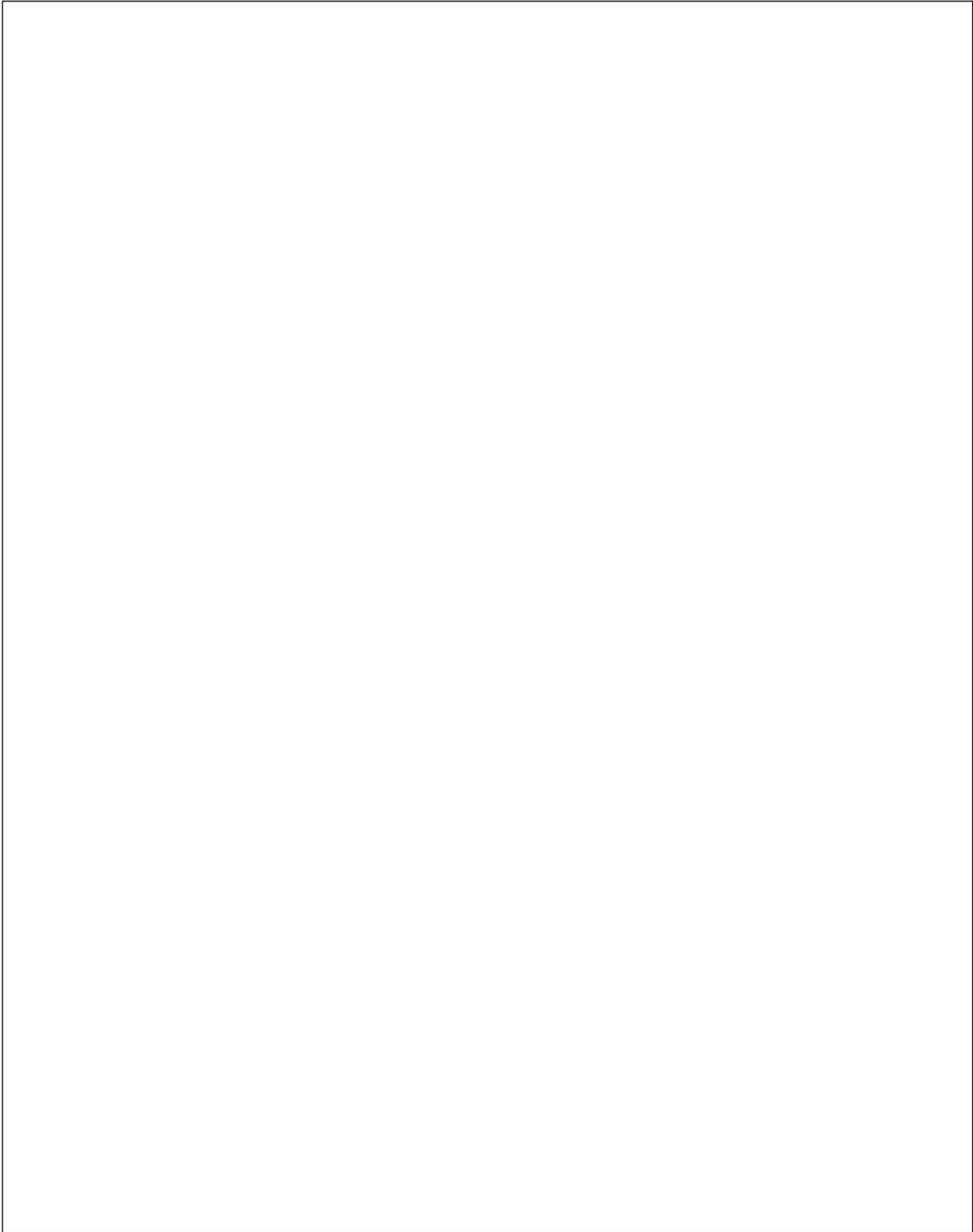
Names of other students present

Time, date and Location of incident

Report. (Please cross following boxes to confirm details included.)

- Reasons for restraining student
- Verbal instruction given first
- Where student was restrained and touched
- How student was supported after restraint ended
- How long you estimate restraint was necessary
- How student reacted and his/her state of mind
- Names of witnesses present
- Any support needed for staff members

Please sign and/or continue overleaf.



Signed.....Date.....

PRINT Name.....