



POLICY 5900

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION IN SCHOOL SETTINGS

POLICY:

Student access to an effective educational program is a basic right of each student in British Columbia's K-12 education system. The Board of Education is committed to respecting each student's right to an educational program and to ensure that interventions used to support a student are carried out in a manner that maintains the student's dignity and the safety of all involved. Positive and least restrictive approaches in the provision of student supports are considered best practice.

Support for a student who has difficulty self-regulating physically aggressive behaviour shall be focused on employing preventative measures that minimize the use of physical restraint and/or seclusion. It is expected that school personnel implement effective supports and interventions to prevent and de-escalate potentially unsafe situations.

There is no evidence that using restraint or seclusion is effective in reducing the occurrence of the problematic behaviours that frequently precipitate their use. There is a growing body of knowledge that shows that continued use can cause harm. As a result, the use of physical restraint and/or seclusion shall occur only in exceptional circumstances in which it is determined that there exists an imminent risk of harm or injury to self or others.

DISTRICT PRACTICE 5900 PHYSICAL RESTRIANT AND SECLUSION IN SCHOOL SETTINGS
FORM 5900 PHYSICAL RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION IN SCHOOL SETTINGS

REFERENCES: [British Columbia Ministry of Education Provincial Guidelines – Physical Restraint and Seclusion in School Settings June 3, 2015](#)

ADOPTED: September 2019
Amended: