PHYSICAL RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION POLICY

Company Operations

ADO SERVICES C.I.C.

Incorporating ADO River Valley

Version 1.0 © 2026

Next Review Date September 2027

Last Ratification By Management Committee	September 2026
Next Review By Management Committee	September 2027
Latest Update	New Policy

2026-2027

1. Policy Overview

It is the policy of ADO River Valley School (ADO RV) to ensure a safe, secure and stable environment for our students to learn.

Our policy is to refrain from physical restraint and use other methods for behavioural learning.

This policy is very closely linked to our **Behaviour Learning Policy**, specifically sections 6 and 7 which provide a comprehensive guide to dealing with physical intervention, reflection and recovery areas and Appendix 5 which provides a flow chart of how we respond to varying levels of behaviour escalation.

This policy is also linked to the **Safeguarding Policy**.

2. Key Terminology

Restrictive Intervention – We do not use this method of intervention and will use de-escalation techniques over physical contact.

Reasonable Force – We do not use physical force.

Significant Incident – Any incidents are managed with de-escalation and reported through the appropriate logs in CPOMS. Incidents are continued to be logged at various stages of escalation.

Seclusion – We do not place young people in seclusion. we use regulation space/shelter/areas that are typically set in a therapeutic environment where the student has the continued support from a staff member.

Restraint – We do not restrain students. We have staff trained in behaviour support and de-escalation. We encourage and support young people to make the right choices. They will be supported by staff members to help them regulate.

3. Managing Risk

With our students having multiple requirements and needs, all day-to-day activities are carefully managed to their abilities and risk assessed depending on the activities or learning they are participating in. This means that we will lower the risks for any interventions with careful planning and knowing the needs of the student.

4 Recording, reporting & Logging Incidents

We have a physical log which details any physical restraint or force or seclusion that has been applied without permission due to our no restraint policy. The log will detail any outcome action points and learning points including any disciplinary action and investigation

of staff members concerned. The information of the incident will be provided to each parent of the student as soon as its practical following the incident. All incidents are recorded as a matter of course at any stage of escalation as noted in the Behaviour Learning policy, Appendix 5. Quality assurance will support all reasonable steps to ensure that those procedures are complied with.

The school will comply with the requirements of Part 6 of the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, including paragraphs 32(1)(a) and 32(2), regarding the provision of information to parents and prospective parents.

Where sharing this information may create safeguarding risk and the school are unable to speak to any parent regarding this incident the school will act in accordance with its Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and its overriding duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Information may be withheld from a parent where disclosure would place a young person at risk of significant harm or would otherwise conflict with the school's safeguarding duties. Any decision to withhold information will be made on a case-by-case basis, with the reasons clearly recorded. Where appropriate, relevant information concerning the incident or safeguarding concern will instead be shared with the local authority in which the young person resides and/or the appropriate safeguarding agencies.
This approach ensures that the school meets its obligations regarding the provision of information while ensuring that the safety and welfare of the young person remains paramount.

5 Review

All ADO River Valley policies and procedures follow ITIL guidelines to ensure version control, change control and release management of any documents. As a matter of policy, documents can be updated at any time to reflect changes to ADO River Valley procedures, legal changes, OFSTED directives or any other reason to ensure the policies and procedures are accurate and correct. This involves consultation with stakeholders, management committee and approval from the directors. All policies and procedures are reviewed at the very least on an annual basis. Regular communication through newsletters, social media, text systems and through our website within the ADO River Valley Library is part of our Release Management.

6 Contact

This document was produced by the ADO River Valley Operations Consultancy team (Kylanja Ltd). This version supersedes any previous versions and will be reviewed annually.

All correspondence with regard to this policy, or any other operational policy and procedure should be directed to the ADO River Valley by e-mailing education@adorivervalley.co.uk or calling 0208 855 6778, requesting to speak to the School Business Manager or in writing c/o

School Business Manager, ADO River Valley School, 126 Upper Wickham Lane, Welling, Kent, DA16 3DP.