



## SECLUSION AND PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

### National Administration Guideline 5- Health and Safety

#### Background to Policy

This policy is to give clarification in regards to seclusion and physical restraint within the school as per the Education Act update dated 19 May 2017.

#### Policy Statement

This policy outlines RidgeView School's commitment to the safety and wellbeing of students.

#### Definitions

Seclusion as defined in the Education Act: 'Seclude' in relation to a student or child, means to place a student involuntarily alone in a room from which they cannot or believe they cannot freely exit.

Physically restrain as defined in the Education Act : 'Physically restrain ' in relation to a student , means to use physical force to prevent , restrict or subdue the movement of the student's body or part of their body.

#### Policy Implementation

- 1) Seclusion as defined by the Education Act is illegal and never to be carried out by any persons within the school premises or at any stage off-site whilst being seen as a representative of RidgeView Primary School.
- 2) 'Time out' can be used if the student voluntarily takes themselves to an acceptable space to calm down or is prompted by a teacher to do so. The child or student must be aware that they can freely exit the space at any stage.
- 3) 'Physical restraint' as defined by the Education Act is legal providing that it is carried out by a teacher or a BOT approved and authorised staff member who is familiar with the student's individualised Safety Plan which has the parents' and principal's permission to act if necessary.

More information regarding restraint in schools can be found at

(<https://education.govt.nz/school/student-support/special-education/behaviour-services-to-help-schools-and-students/support-for-schools-to-minimise-physical-restraint/> )

This policy is to be reviewed within three years of its implementation .

This policy will be reviewed as per the Board's Effectiveness Review Programme

Confirmed by the Board of Trustees on: 6/11/18 (date)

The planned review date will be: 5/11/21 (date)

T. O'Brien  
Chairperson

R. King  
Principal