



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: