

The Use of Force or Restraint

The Use of Force by Staff to Control or Restrain Pupils – the non-statutory guidance (DCSF) – ‘The use of force to Control or Restrain Pupils’ is used by Dolphin School, and summarised in brief below.

Objectives

- 1.1 The Key objective is to maintain the safety of pupils and staff.
- 1.2 To prevent breaches of school discipline.
- 1.3 To prevent damage to property.

Minimising need to use force

- 2.1. We aim to create a peaceful and well-ordered environment, which minimises the risk of incidents that might require using force.
- 2.2. Our Christian ethos and Life Education programme allows very regular opportunities to share feeling, concerns and frustrations.
- 2.3. Children are given very regular opportunities to talk and be listened to.

Authorised staff

- 3.1. Any staff member in sole charge of children is authorised to use force in line with this document.

Deciding whether to use force

- 4.1. Staff should only use force in line with the 3 objectives above (1.1, 1.2 and 1.3).
- 4.2. Staff should not endanger themselves.

Using force

- 5.1. Staff are required to use the minimum force necessary.
- 5.2. Staff are advised that such a decision will normally be taken ‘on the spot’ – and a clear oral warning is desirable.

Reporting incidents

- 6.1. Each class teacher has an incident book where any use of force should be recorded.
- 6.2. The Senior Team should be informed when an entry is made in the incident book.

Training

- 7.1. Opportunities for discussion on all child protection matters are given regularly in staff meetings.