

Inappropriate Contact & Restraint Policy

Winton Community Academy

Reviewed in	September 2021
Next review date	September 2022

Current version	Previous version	Summary of changes made
v.2	v.1	Adaptations to link affectively to other WCA policies.

Guiding Principles

Winton Community Academy is a non-contact school. With exception to the scenarios outlined below the principle remains that the school should be non contact.

Aims:

- To ensure the safety and well-being of all students, staff and visitors
- To clarify legal responsibilities, entitlements and obligations
- To support all the members of the school community by providing clear guidance and procedures on contact related issues to ensure clarity and consistency
- To develop a whole school approach to the role of contact within relationships education in the context of the school curriculum

Key roles and responsibilities

The Headteacher has overarching responsibility for safeguarding at Winton Community Academy. This role is delegated to the Deputy Headteacher (Personal Development). They can be contacted on safeguarding@wintoncommunityacademy.org

Definition of inappropriate contact

Winton Community Academy defines inappropriate contact as any physical connection between members of the community deemed inappropriate or as such endangers or causes harm to another person.

Education

Consent - We will provide all students with education around consent as an integral part of our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Wellbeing programme.

Relationship education - In line with statutory requirements (policy link here) the Academy will provide Sex and Relationships Education to all students across their time at Winton.

Content and delivery - Teaching will be based on an understanding that a variety of approaches should be used in order to meet the differing needs and learning styles of students. It is recognised that active or participatory learning styles can be particularly helpful in developing skills, knowledge and values.

Use of visitors and outside speakers - We use visitors to support our planned teacher lead programme of education, in line with national and local guidance. We are careful to negotiate the use of visitors so that their contribution fits our needs and they are clear how their input fits into our planned programme. The class teacher is always present when visitors are working with our students.

Managing inappropriate contact related incidents: routine arrangements

Contact may be permitted in the following circumstances:

1. By a staff member to safeguard a child from physical or mental harm. Examples include such things as preserving a child's safety by moving them to prevent injury or showing reasonable compassion in the case of bereavement.
2. In line with the restraint policy.
3. By agreed consent of the pupil in lessons such as dance and rugby where the curriculum is appropriate.

Incidents

An inappropriate contact related incident may include any of the following:

- A student who makes contact through an action of physical threat or attack.
- Fighting.
- Threat of fighting.
- Any physical behaviour that places a member of the community at risk of injury.

Process

- The Deputy Headteacher for Personal Development, Behaviour Welfare and Safety is responsible for coordinating the management of contact related incidents, offering sources of support and liaising with outside agencies.
- Incidents will be dealt with after making an assessment of the situation and be reported to the Headteacher.
- Appropriate support will be offered to those who require it.
- Where the incident has placed a member of the Academy community at direct risk permanent exclusion will be considered.

Permanent Exclusion

This last resort may result from:

- An intent to cause harm.
- An action that endangers safety or causes harm

The final decision for permanent exclusion rests with the Headteacher

Support for Students

Following actions to preserve immediate safety, the health and emotional needs of students will be considered. Support is available through the pastoral system to ensure a caring response to students in distress. Interventions will be considered if the school feels a student is showing signs which indicate particular risks of, or from, involvement with drugs, whether their own or that of their parent or carer. Such interventions may include consultation and subsequent referral.

Recording

All incidents will be recorded within 24 hours. Forms will be stored securely in the student file.

Confidentiality

Complete secrecy can never be promised to a student, though information given in confidence will only be disclosed to anyone else in the interests of Child Protection. Staff have a commitment to inform the student in advance of any disclosure of information to others and if possible enable the student to be involved in the process. Staff are committed to protect a young person's anonymity where their disclosure may implicate others. Regarding disclosures staff need to carefully define and communicate the boundaries of confidentiality offered.

Staff training and support

We recognise the need for staff to receive appropriate training to support their work in delivering the school programme of education and dealing appropriately with incidents should they arise. The Deputy Headteacher (Personal Development) , or other appropriate member of staff, will organise training related to the identified needs of staff as required.

Restraint and reasonable force

The Academy will not exercise reasonable force with students unless approved by the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher in the absence of the Headteacher.

Staff will make physical contact by guiding and supporting students. This will not be done unless there is a threat to life, serious injury, school order or the welfare of a member of our community. This will be done in line with reasonable force guidelines. [Use of reasonable force](#)

Only nominated staff (Sean Flavell, Iain Parsons and Brendan Agnew) are permitted to engage in any contact of this nature with students. These will be recorded, parent informed and the reasonable force form completed.

Any physical contact outside of lessons will always be done and witnessed with two staff.

All action in these circumstances will be video recorded in line with our camera and recording policy.

Links to other policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- [School Behaviour Policy](#)
- [School Weapons Policy](#)
- [School Drugs Policy](#)
- [School Health & Safety Policy](#)
- [School Medical Policy](#)
- [Recording Policy](#)
- [DfE Behaviour and Discipline in Schools \(2016\)](#)
- [DfE Searching, Screening and Confiscation at School \(2018\)](#)
- [DfE supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions at School \(2017\)](#)
- [The Equality Act 2010](#)